

560-1945

Haitian President calls for unity of world blacks

C.A.L.P.

SAN FRANCISCO—Whatever the attitude of the foreign delegations of color to the world security conference here, the position of President Elie Lescot, of the Republic of Haiti, in the matter of unity of world blacks to win freedom from white domination, is unmistakable.

Released this week by the Haitian delegation, which has been subtly criticized, along with other delegations, for snubbing American Negroes and their efforts to unify darker interests, was the address delivered by President Lescot on the occasion of the departure of his delegation for the conference. The delegation is headed by President Lescot's son, Gerard, and includes 10 members. The President said:

"I speak not only for the people whose destiny I guide, but also for a Race, our race, which proposes to occupy its place in the sun and which is determined to enjoy the respect to which it is entitled through the many sacrifices it has made for the sacred cause of Liberty each and every time Liberty has been threatened.

"On the list of January, 1942," the Haitian President continued, "I made an appeal to black men everywhere in the world to form a bloc and to give their undivided support to the Great Democracies engaged in their struggle with the enemies of civilization so that they, the black men, could live as free men do, under God's sun, in perfect equality with all men. Wherever they have been able, wherever conditions have permitted, black men have done their duty and have contributed to the extent of their means to add to the luster and the glory of the Victory . . ."

Expressing faith in the San Francisco conference, the President of the second oldest nation in the western hemisphere, said: ". . . I do not like to think that men are immutable in their errors and their wrongs and that in spite of the sufferings they have experienced in their bodies and souls, they will continue to be blind to the causes of the greatest catastrophe which humanity has ever known . . . Men of this 20th century, no matter what their skill or their genius may be, will never discover a doctrine more suitable to human dignity than that which is to be drawn from the teachings

"In this search for peace, the Nations of the world shall be ever thwarted, if they do not look higher than the chimneys of their factories, if they do not at times forget the immense wealth beneath them in the bowels of the earth, to remember the eternal laws of God. When human dignity is threatened, one cannot depend solely on man's wisdom, his egotism, his pride and his vanity to restore that dignity to its full share of respect.

Ethiopia, Haiti, Liberia Mum On Colonial Issue

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, JR.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Neither Haiti, Liberia, nor Ethiopia—unlike several other medium and smaller nations—has raised its voice, either in plenary session, through amendment proposals, or in press conference, on behalf of colonial peoples.

Neither of the three has called a press conference on any question and only Liberia makes itself available to correspondents without a lot of fuss and fanfare. Haiti is fairly accessible, although its female office secretary, a Haitian, is none too cooperative.

Ethiopians are the most difficult, although several of the delegation group are approachable. Their white office secretary, temporarily serving, is most difficult, acting like a combined FBI, secret service, and over-zealous guardian.

Only Haiti has included reference to human rights and racial equality in either plenary addresses or submitted amendments. Ethiopia understandably is chiefly concerned with future security. Liberia is voicing concern chiefly for non-interference in "Domestic" situations.

Liberian Delegate Accused of Betraying Dark Races

By RALPH MATTHEWS, Editor Washington AFRO

SAN FRANCISCO—Charges that Liberia, in an effort to serve her own selfish ends, had sold the cause of all the darker races down the river, swept the World Security Conference today, following a speech before the plenary session on Tuesday. This was the interpretation placed on the remarks of C. L. Simpson, Vice-President of the African Republic and chairman of its delegation.

Mr. Simpson called for a modification of the Dumbarton Oaks proposal in reference to internal matters covered by chapter 1, paragraph 3, upon which colonial peoples pinned their hopes for improvement of their economic and social status.

Protects Own Affairs

To prevent any international supervision of Liberia's treatment of their own native population, whose living and educational standards are notoriously low, Mr. Simpson stated:

"The principle should emerge and be made crystal clear that this should not imply that a nation or the General Assembly may interfere or intervene in the internal affairs of another State upon the assumption or decision that certain social or economic needs or reforms are desirable for that State."

"The State itself must serve this prerogative or be relegated to the status of a dependency." If the Liberian view is adopted, the International Council will be prevented from urging needed reforms in India and the colonial empires of the Great Powers. Simpson was being accused of stabbing his darker brethren in the back.

His speech was just the antithesis of that of Tryve Lie, Foreign Minister of Norway, who declared that the protection of sovereignty of small States was not enough, but that the welfare of individual citizens must be the concern of the world organization.

"We must not again risk letting economic and social anarchy lead to new crises and mass unemployment," he said. "A higher standard of living and social security for all must be one of the main tasks of the new international organization in order for the masses of all nations to rally to us with confidence and enthusiasm."

Peace Not Enough

"It is not enough for countries to be peace-loving. Our brothers and sons are dying because they love justice of human decency even more than peace."

"Daily bread turns to stone un-

Liberia's Chairman

Clarence L. Simpson, vice president of the Republic of Liberia, was born in 1896, but looks younger than his 49 years.

He is the only vice president or equivalent of any one of the 49 nations now at the conference, thereby outranking the foreign secretaries heading most of the delegations. No president, king, or other head of state is or was in attendance.

He was graduated from the College of West Africa in 1919, and then attended Liberia College. He became collector of customs in Monrovia in 1925 after holding minor positions in the customs bureau. During 1927 and 1928 he was county attorney for Montserrado county. He was appointed secretary of the general post office in 1928 and acting postmaster in 1931.

Later in 1931 he was elected to the Liberian House of Representatives and was made speaker of the House, holding that post until 1934. For the next ten years, under former President Edwin Barclay, he served as secretary of state. During these years he headed the Liberian delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva, Switzerland.

When he was inaugurated as vice president of Liberia in January, 1944, he gave up his position as general secretary of the True Whig Party, the dominant political party in the country. He is a counsellor at law of the Supreme Court of Liberia. This is his first visit to America.



Mr. Simpson

San Francisco Conference and Liberia

Other Journal & Guide Liberian Delegates

Gabriel L. Dennis has been secretary of state for Liberia since 1944. He served as secretary of the treasury from 1932 to 1940 of a military committee appointed and, until appointed to his present post, he acted as Belgian consul in Liberia from 1922 to 1944.

He has attended numerous and various international conferences, being perhaps the most traveled and experienced career diplomat in Liberian history. Among the world conferences he has attended before the UNCTO in San Francisco are: United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture at Hot Springs in 1943, when he was chairman of the Liberian delegation, and UNRRA Conference at Atlantic City in 1943. He was a Liberian delegate to the League of Nations in 1943. At present he is a member of the United Nations Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture.

In addition, he is vice president of the college and president of the board of trustees of the College of West Africa and president of the board of managers of the Booker T. Washington Agricultural Institute at Kokata, Liberia. He represented the Liberian Protestant churches at the Conga Jubilee Conference at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, in 1928 and at the International Missionary Council Conference in 1932 and 1936.

Mr. Dennis is a member of the Liberian Orders K. G. B. A. H. R. and G. C. S. A., a commander of the Legion of Honor of France, and a chevalier of the Order of Leopold I of Belgium. He received an LL.D. degree from Emporia College in Kansas in 1938.

Richard A. Henries, a lawyer, is chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Liberian House of Representatives. He was born in 1908 and attended the College of West Africa and Liberia College, graduating in 1931. From 1933 to 1934 he was chief clerk of the commonwealth district of Monrovia, capital of the republic. From 1934 to 1938 he was chief clerk of the treasury department. He was supervisor of schools from 1938 to 1943, when he was elected to the House of Representatives. He is local chairman of the True Whig Party in Monrovia.

He attended the committee discussions on the International Court of Justice proposals held in Washington prior to the San Francisco Conference.

Colonel Moses N. Grant, commanding officer of the Liberian Frontier Force, was born in 1892. He was educated in Sierra Leone, an adjoining British colony, and in the preparatory department of Liberia College. From 1910 to 1912 he held a clerical position in the postoffice at Monrovia and in the interior department from 1912 to 1913.

He entered military service as a cadet in 1914 and was graduated

from a training school conducted by the late Colonel Charles Young, who was military attaché to the U. S. legation and military adviser to the Liberian government. From 1922 to 1925 he was paymaster and from 1922 to 1924 first inspector general of troops, Liberian Frontier Force.

He has held various military commissions. He was a member of the military committee appointed by the President of Liberia in 1939, of the committee for the elaboration of the defense program in 1942, and was appointed to the National War Commission Board in 1944. He is fond of walking and gardening. He has one son, who is a second lieutenant in the Liberian Frontier Force, and a daughter.

Joseph L. Gibson was born in Greenville, county of Sinoe, in 1898 and attended Cuttington High School in Maryland county, Liberia. After holding several clerical positions, he was elected to the House of Representatives in September, 1933. In 1935 he became a member of the Liberian Senate, an office which he still holds.

He is chairman of the ways and means and finance committees of the Senate and a member of the foreign affairs committee. He was elected chairman of the True Whig Party in Sinoe county in 1944. He is a member of the Methodist Church in the city of Liberia.

Yes, able men all; and there are others equally able in their countries who did not come to San Francisco. Whenever the question is asked, especially about promised self-government in colonies, "can the black man govern himself?"—the answer is supplied by Liberia, Haiti, and Ethiopia.

It is YES.

Ethiopia and the 'Small Nations' Argument

Daily Worker N.Y.

ECONOMIC rivalries and social contradictions, between the decisive world capitalist powers themselves and between them and the socialist state, which at that time proved irreconcilable, caused the failure of the League of Nations. The peace of Versailles distributed colonial empires and laid out zones of economic and political influence in Europe, Asia and Africa.

For a long time, narrow-minded statesmen and capitalist countries built a wall around the Soviet Union and elbowed her out of international affairs. They nurtured German imperialism and helped it rear. Moreover, the statesmen of the capitalist countries made the grave mistake of failing to understand the tremendous democratic force that lay in the peoples of the colonial and semi-colonial areas of the world. These blind statesmen failed to see also that exploitation, starvation, disease and misery in colonial areas in turn produced unemployment and economic crisis in the great capitalist countries themselves.

These contradictions—economic, social and political—broke up the basis for unity in the League of Nations between the major powers and finally led to the second World War.

Strange as it may seem, the small nations, although occupying a secondary position in the League Assembly, nevertheless were unwittingly aids to the machinations of the big capitalist powers.

AS MEMBERS of the League, the small nations had the illusion of "juridical equality." The vote of a single member nation had the power to nullify important actions facing the Assembly. Unanimous vote of members of the Assembly was necessary to restrain an aggressor. The abstention of a single member was sufficient to prevent economic and military sanctions. Under this arrangement the small nations were mere pawns in the game of European politics.

The case of Ethiopia is typical of how this worked out in practice. The debate on restraining fascist Italy in her aggressive designs against Ethiopia went on in the Assembly for more than a year. "Justice" was always on the side of small countries; and the interest of Ethiopia coincided with the interest of all small nations and colonies. Ethiopia was a small nation. She was also a semi-colonial country, governed by a progressive monarch.

Behind the scenes in the world-famous case were tragic conflicting ambitions, suspicions, economic and social contradictions, and imperialistic colonial designs of the big

powers. There was also hatred of the Soviet Union which did all she could to establish col-

lective security to preserve peace. Sanctions against Italy were defeated, however, because Switzerland, Austria, Hungary and Albania raised objections. These nations were controlled by the Axis powers. Other small nations were likewise under the domination of either England or France. The United States had clothed herself in political isolation and was absent from membership in the League. Only Soviet Russia and Mexico stood up to the last for sanctions against Italy.



THE lessons to be drawn from these experiences in the League of Nations for the historic San Francisco Conference is that, first and foremost, in order for a world security organization to be effective in maintaining peace, the main responsibility must rest in the hands of big powers. The unity of the big powers is indispensable to world unity. The interests of small nations and colonies cannot be protected unless conditions for establishing unity between the major powers have been firmly established. A great degree of unity has been established during the course of the war and it has been strengthened by the Crimean conferences and the decisions of Dumbarton Oaks and Bretton Woods.

What is necessary to establish the functioning responsibility of the big powers in the new world security system will be the subject of the next article.

Sketches Of Liberians, Ethiopians And Haitians

By P. BERNARD YOUNG JR.
Editor, Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—The delegates at the United Nations Conference representing the free Negro countries are all able and experienced men, with interesting and often notable educational backgrounds. Most of those from Ethiopia were forced to become refugees when Mussolini temporarily overran their country back in the thirties. Several of them have military backgrounds, with outstanding war service records. One has received an honorary doctorate from an American white university. Among the delegations are doctors, lawyers, doctors of philosophy, and diplomats. Many of them have degrees from the finest universities in Europe or America. To give the reading public an opportunity to know the spokesmen for the Negro-governed countries of Ethiopia, Haiti, and Liberia, your correspondent dug up thumb-nail biographical sketches of them. What kind of men are the chiefs of the three delegations? To answer that question we'll highlight the careers of the chairmen of the delegations first, then their colleagues.

Ethiopia's Chairman

Bitwoddet Makonnen Endalkachew, prime minister of Ethiopia, was born in 1893. He started his career in 1918 as a controller of

French-Ethiopian railway. In 1926 he served as minister of commerce. He was appointed minister of inland in 1931 and also Ethiopian representative to the League of Nations, at which posts he remained until 1933.

From 1933 to 1934 he was governor of Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia. In 1934 he became minister of the interior, in 1935, governor of Illu-abor Province. During the Italo-Ethiopian War he was a general commanding the Ogaden

it. He became minister of interior for a second time in 1941. He served as president of the council of ministers from 1943 to 1944, when he became prime minister.

He is a member of his country's crown council. As a representative of His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie, the Emperor of Ethiopia, he attended the coronation of King George VI of England.

Her Ethiopian delegates



Mr. Endalkachew

Emmanuel Abraham has been director general of the ministry of education since May, 1944. Born in 1913 in Ethiopia, he was educated at the Tafari Makonnen school in Addis Ababa. After graduation in 1930, he became master of Asba-Tafari Elementary School in 1931.

In June, 1935, he joined the Ethiopian diplomatic service and from 1935 to 1940 served as first secretary of the Ethiopian legation in London. From 1940 to 1942 he was in charge of affairs in London.

to Aklilou Abte-Wold, vice minister of foreign affairs, was born in Ethiopia in 1912. After graduating from the French Lycee in Alexandria, Egypt, he studied at the University of Paris, where he received a licentiate in law, and subsequently diplomas in international law and political economy. He holds also a diploma from the Faculty of Higher Commercial Studies in Paris.

He served as charge d'affaires in France from 1935 to 1940. After the fall of France, he fled to Ethiopia and was able to reach Ethiopia only after a difficult journey. He was vice minister of (imperial secretariat) from 1940 to 1943, when he was designated vice minister of foreign affairs.

to Menasse Lemma, director general of the ministry of finance, born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1913. He graduated from the St. Joseph School in Cairo with a commercial certificate and then served an apprenticeship in the Imperial Bank in that city until 1934. The following month he joined the Bank of Ethiopia.

In 1935 his government sent him on a mission to Yemen and Saudi Arabia. When the Italian occupation of Ethiopia began, he took refuge in Cairo where he worked for various business firms.

He joined the patriot army in 1940, fighting under his Emperor. In June, 1940, he was appointed secretary general of the Province of Harrar. A year later he was transferred to the post of comptroller general in the ministry of finance, a position he held until he became director general of that

stry. **Atta Ephrem Twelde Medhen**, Ethiopian minister to the United States, was born in Eritrea in 1894. He studied at the American University of Beirut, Syria, he taught in the Tafari Makonnen School at Addis Ababa, where Emmanuel Abraham, one of the Ethiopian delegates, was one of his pupils.

In 1929 he was appointed consul general to France. He became secretary and charge d'affaires in London in 1932. From 1938 to 1942 he lived as a refugee in France. After the liberation of Ethiopia he returned to Addis Ababa and became secretary general of the ministry of foreign affairs, and later vice minister of foreign affairs.

In November, 1943, he was appointed minister to the United States. Minister Medhen, who was a member of the Ethiopian delegation to the League of Nations during the Italo-Ethiopian War, was Ethiopian representative at

the first session of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration Conference at Atlantic City, N. J., in November, 1943, and chairman of the Ethiopian delegations to the United Nations Monetary Conference at Bretton Woods in July, 1944, and the International Civil Aviation Conference in Chicago, in November, 1944.

mbai Wolde-Mariam, vice minister of justice, was born in Eritrea in 1906. He attended the Seminary of the Holy Spirit in Rome, received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Paris. Propagation of the Faith in Ethiopia, and is licentiate in law of the University of Paris.

From 1933 to 1935 he served as legal adviser to the Special Court in Addis Ababa, and was later appointed political adviser to Harrar Province. After the Italian occupation of Ethiopia, he took refuge in the Sudan and Egypt. In 1941 he became legal adviser to the Duke of Harrar, second son of the Emperor. He was appointed minister of justice in 1943.

The Negro Nations and World Security

Daily Worker
(CONCLUSION)

N.Y. by James W. Ford
5-10-45

IN ADJUSTING her relations with the outside world, Ethiopia took steps to establish accord in national and international church associations. On Aug. 27, 1944, Emperor Haile Selassie issued a decree establishing open areas for the operation of church missions where the inhabitants were predominantly non-Christian. He established areas for the operation of the Ethiopian church where the inhabitants were predominantly of that faith.



Provisions were also made for the operation of these religious missions within both areas. However, in keeping with church reform and the sovereignty and dignity of the Ethiopian people, Emperor Haile Selassie authorized the government to declare that the Archbishop of Ethiopia must be an Ethiopian rather than an Egyptian. This broke a 1,600-year tradition and was brought about because the foreign Archbishops heretofore appointed from Egypt did not speak Ethiopian dialects nor understand the mentality of the Ethiopians.

Relations between the Roman Church and Ethiopia have been strained ever since the Vatican supported Benito Mussolini's conquest of that country. But Haile Selassie upon his return to his country took no action against the Catholic Church in Ethiopia and no opposition exists to Catholic priests there now.

An entirely new day can be noted in Ethiopia's economic outlook also. This little nation, semi-colonial and dependent prior to the present epoch, struggled to oppose enslavement by imperialist booty grabbers. Today she is in a position to consolidate her national independence and enter a period of wide economic expansion and prosperous reconstruction.

Her long dormant natural resources, virtually untapped, are becoming the subject of exhaustive study by domestic and foreign technical missions in full collaboration with the government. From the United States and Great Britain technical missions have gone to Ethiopia.

This outlook in Ethiopia has its roots in the world policies of Teheran and Crimea.

THE Negro republic of Liberia declared war on the Axis in January, 1944 and in April of the same year became the 35th member of the United Nations. Prior to this, a series of diplomatic, military and economic relations had been established between the Liberian and American governments which involved a visit of President Roosevelt with President Edwin Barclay on the occasion of the American President's mission to Casablanca. By agreement between the two governments, Monrovia, the Liberian capital, be-

came an airplane base connecting South America and the African coast to facilitate American prosecution of the war against the Axis.

In December of 1942 a division of American troops was landed on Liberian soil with "a policy of full collaboration with the United Nations during the existing hostilities." President Barclay announced that "the future of Liberia is inextricably bound up in the victory of those states fighting for the maintenance of the general principles implicit in the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms."

Four acts providing for Liberia's full co-operation in America's plan were passed by the National Legislature of Liberia in 1941. At the end of 1943 President Roosevelt instructed E. R. Stettinius, Jr., then administrator of lend-lease, to add Liberia to the list of lend-lease nations.

In the latter half of 1944, at the request of the Liberian government, the United States Public Health Service sent an all-Negro mission of 11 American physicians, engineers, entomologists and nurses to develop a five-year health program in Liberia.

HAITI has also been accorded economic and political relations with the United States based on the principle of the Good Neighbor Policy. She has functioned as a full-fledged member of the Inter-American Conference of the countries of the Western Hemisphere. Haiti was among the first of the Latin American nations to declare war on the Axis. When she became a member of the United Nations, economic relations were established with the United States to facilitate participation in the prosecution of the war. "The Society for the Development of Haitian Agriculture" was set up. Millions of dollars were made available by the United States for developments in Haiti.

The decisive factor for the economic and political advancement of Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti is worldwide economic expansion of markets which is the perspective of the new world security system.

Wants Powerful Council Prepared To Make Decisions

By RAYFORD W. LOGAN, Adviser on Foreign Affairs

SAN FRANCISCO—The dangers inherent in regional attempts to settle disputes likely to result in aggression or war have been strongly emphasized at this conference by Blata Ephrem Tewelde Medhen, Ethiopian Minister to the United States, and the first representative of a predominantly Negro nation to address a plenary session.

In restrained language and voice, the dark-skinned Minister reminded the assembled delegates, the press and audience that "the peace-loving nations of the world must not be called upon again as was Ethiopia to submit to what has been rightly called a 'spoliation by procedure.'"

SANCTION INADEQUATE

He bluntly recalled the pusillanimous action of the Council of the old League of Nations which relegated "the determination of vital problems to subordinate or extraneous commissions" and which permitted orderly procedure "to be interrupted and the application of sanctions suspended in order to call such additional and extraneous procedures or organs into existence."

He recalled also the inadequacy of the sanctions applied against Italy, the imposing by members of the League of an embargo on the export of arms to Ethiopia and the use of poison gas by Italy.

Truly, as he insisted, the tragic history of Ethiopia makes her more qualified than any other nation "to voice the cautious warnings of experience." The League, in fact, preferred "the abandonment and death of one of its members, and thereby chose, instead, defeat and dissolution for itself."

VOTE DECISIONS NOT RESOLUTIONS

Public opinion, he warned in a paragraph that should be memorized by all who consider this force the real safeguard of weak nations against a powerful aggressor, cannot suffice to remedy the faults of a defective organization, however enlightened and insistent that public opinion may be. For Ethiopia had the sympathy and support of peoples throughout the world, but was, nevertheless, abandoned by the League.

Consequently, he urged that the international organization should be enabled and COMPELLED to vote not resolutions and recommendations, but decisions. In one of the most striking sentences uttered at this conference, he declared: "The Security Council should be enabled to vote its decisions promptly without possibility of obstruction and delays on the part of those whose interest it may be to gain by time what cannot be

DELAYING TACTICS IN "OAKS" CHARTER

Now, one of the greatest opportunities for sparring for time lies in the provisions for regional councils. The Dumbarton Oaks proposals stipulate that the Security Council should encourage the settlement of local disputes through regional arrangements or agencies and should, where appropriate, utilize such arrangements or agencies. But no enforcement action should be taken under these regional arrangements or by regional agencies without the authorization of the Security Council. Obviously, these proposals permit an aggressor nation to gain time for the completion of its preparations and the opportunity for precisely that "spoliation by procedure" which enabled Italy to achieve its conquest of Ethiopia.

Moreover, as the Ethiopian Minister pointed out, the responsibility for the maintenance of World Peace must remain "indivisible and universal." This responsibility cannot be left to any region or to any particular group of powers.

It is hoped that this warning of Ethiopia will not go unheeded as did that of Emperor Haile Selassie's fulfilled prophecy that the rest of the world would pay an untold price for its failure to live up to its commitments.

SEES NO VALUE IN EQUALITY CLAUSE

It is hoped, rather, that there are present enough representatives from the devastated countries of Europe to see to it that a security organization will be set up that will not stultify itself by again making possible "spoliation by procedure."

Perhaps it moves showing first the conquest of Ethiopia and then the destruction of Rotterdam, London, Normandy and the horrors of Lidice, Buchenwald, Gardelegen and Dachau could be presented to the delegates here, they might be reminded of the relationship of the cause and the effects.

Although the statement of the Ethiopian delegation is an able one, one can only regret the failure of this Negro nation to call for a racial equality clause, an international bill of rights, and the abolition of colonialism. With respect to the racial equality clause, a spokesman for the delegation

no value. But he later added that it would do no harm. The omission of any reference to opian document requires comment. Significant in view of the interest aid given by the British people in mandates in the Near East is driving the Italians out of Ethiopia by Abdel Hamid Badawi. This disregard for the aid pressed by Abdel Hamid Badawi, Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, on Monday, Africa may have been more than proposed that these trusteeships be an oversight. On the other hand, administered by the Arab states, the document also failed to mention Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. Geographical part of the Near East. She should, therefore, be concerned about the allocation and administration of any mandates in that region.

560-1945

Federated Organizations of Colored People of the World

Colored Groups In Frisco Form World Movement

Irked Because Interests
Of Darker Peoples Had
Been Sidestepped N.Y.

SAN FRANCISCO, (Special)—A dissatisfied group of colored representatives at the UNCIO San Francisco Conference have organized the Federated Organizations of Colored People of the World.

The movement grew out of the feeling that the colored representatives had not been given a chance to speak for the best interests of the colored peoples of the world. American representatives were joined by some East Indians who felt themselves in a similar situation.

Edgar G. Brown characterized the American delegation as "lily-white" and singled out Senator Thomas Connally for caustic criticism. Mr. Brown said, "Sen. Tom Connally has succeeded in keeping the American delegation from sponsoring a straight out unequivocal declaration for racial equality and full suffrage in the final chapter of the UNCIO."

Perry W. Howard, Elks leader, urged that Chapter "Purposes 2," which contained the provision that there should be a cultural program without "distinction as to race, language, or sex," should be revised to refer to "civil rights" instead of "human rights."

Dr. J. L. Horace of Chicago, of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, was elected president. Dr. J. Finley Wilson, Treasurer. Dr. G. Linwood Fauntleroy, secretary, Mrs. Ida Jackson, assistant and Hon Perry W. Howard, chairman of the steering committee.

Haiti's 5-26-45 Chairman

Journalist, Guide
Gerald E. Lescot, foreign minister of Haiti since 1943, is the youngest head of a delegation at San Francisco. Born in 1914 at Port-de-Paix, he is 31 years of age. He is the eldest son of the President of Haiti. After receiving his A. B. degree he studied medicine for two years.



Mr. Lescot

In 1934 he was made assistant secretary of the Haitian-Dominican boundary commission (at the age of 20). Later he served as attache in the Haitian legation at Santo Domingo, and subsequently became its secretary. In 1936 he became consul-general.

In 1941 he was named chief of the President's cabinet and later became assistant secretary of state, a post which he held until his appointment as foreign minister.

He was a member of the Haitian delegation at the inauguration of Dr. Grau San Martin as President of Cuba in 1944, and head of the delegation to the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace in Mexico in 1945. Out of this conference came the Act of Chapultepec, in which there is an equality section, suggested by Lescot on behalf of his country.

Other 5-26-45 Haitian 10-10-44 Delegates

Antoine Bervin is Haitian charge d'affaires in Havana. A lawyer by profession, he has held many government posts. He has been librarian in Damien, commissioner general of travel, counselor of the Sociological Society, member of the International Historical Society in Paris, counsellor of the National Haitian Commission of Intellectual Cooperation, secretary general of the Haitian-American Institute, and consul-general in Havana.

Pierre Chauvet, under-secretary of finance, commerce, and national economy, was born in Port-au-Prince in 1915. He was graduated in law from the University of Paris, and has received diplomas from the School of Political Science and from the Graduate School of Law and Political Economy in Paris.

Haiti

After graduation he became a newspaperman and for two years was director of *Le Nouvelliste*, a daily published in Haiti. In 1942 he was appointed chief of the department of industrial development in the ministry of commerce and national economy. He has held his present post since 1943.

Antoine Levelt is a major in the Haitian Guards and director of the Military Academy in Haiti. He was born in Saint-Marc in 1910. After studying at the Lycee National in Port-au-Prince, he was graduated from the Haitian University. He also attended the Haitian Guards Military Academy.

He has held numerous posts in the province and in Port-au-Prince. In 1938 he was appointed commander of the Military School in Haiti. On the invitation of the United States government, he visited this country in 1942 and received a diploma from the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

Andre Liautaud, Haitian ambassador to the United States, was born in 1906 in Port-au-Prince. He attended the St. Louis de Gonzague Institute, and graduated from the Haitian School of Agriculture and from Columbia University (New York).

From 1925 to 1928 he served as director of the Farm School, and from 1928 to 1938 as assistant director of rural education in Haiti. In 1938 he was appointed commissioner general for the land settlement project, and three years later became director of rural education.

He was appointed under-secretary of state for finance, commerce, and industry in 1942. In November of the same year he became minister to the United States, and in April, 1943, ambassador.

He has served as a member of Haitian-American Society for Agricultural Development. He is the author of several books on the administrative council of the agriculture, colonization, and geography. He represented Haiti at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace in Mexico in 1945.

General Alfred Nemours is president of the Haitian Senate. He was born in 1883 at Camp Haitien. He attended the Lycees Condorret and Louise le Grand in Paris, the University of Paris, and the famous French Military Academy at St. Cyr. From 1905 to 1915 he served in the Haitian Army.

He began his diplomatic career in 1918 as counsellor of state. From 1922 to 1925 he served as charge d'affaires at the Haitian legation in Holland. He was president of the Haitian council of state in 1925-26. From 1926 to 1929 he was minister to France.

He was Haitian delegate to the League of Nations and served in 1926 as vice president of the sixth commission of the League of Nations and in 1927 was vice president of the Assembly of the League of Nations.

In 1902 he was a delegate to the

International Commission for Air Navigation in Paris. In 1940 he was appointed secretary of the interior. He was elected a senator

and president of the Senate in 1941.

Vely Thebaud, Haitian minister of state for interior, justice, and national defense, was born in Jacmel in 1897. An attorney at law, he became a professor at the Jacmel High School in 1922. In 1927 he was appointed a substitute government representative. From 1928 to 1933 he served as chief justice of the Jacmel Court and from 1933 to 1935 he was chief of the Court of Port-au-Prince.

He became a member of the House of Representatives in 1936.

NATIONAL ROUNDUP *Chicago, Ill.*

Pullman Porters *Chicago Defender* Serve Nazi PW's

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—Pullman porters on duty last week confirmed that 16 German war prisoners were aboard their train when it pulled into Union station July 6.

With nationwide sentiment being aroused over disclosures that German and Italian war prisoners are traveling in Pullman cars while American combat veterans ride in dirty, jam-packed day coaches it was learned that more German prisoners are traveling first class across country, served by porters.

Enroute to New York, the prisoners left here on the Southern Pacific's Argonaut in a Pullman car especially assigned to them.

The prisoners boarded the air conditioned Pullman—complete with white jacketed porter—at San Francisco and were accompanied by two army guards and a lieutenant wearing the insignia of the medical administration corps.

During a day-long layover here at Union station, the prisoners appeared frequently at the car windows and grinned out at the throngs milling past the train shed.

They appeared in excellent spirits.

Alabama Negro Tells Of Jap Prison Ship Voyage

Montgomery Advertiser

(Editor's note: In a West Coast naval hospital, a young Alabama negro, Emmitt P. Bowen, an officers' cook third class in the Navy, wrote an account of the trip he and more than a thousand other American prisoners of war took aboard a Japanese prison ship from Manila to a small port in southern Japan. Received at The Advertiser a few days ago and printed here in its entirety it is a story simply told but recounting dramatically the events in the ten day journey of the Nyssui Maru.)

In March, 1944, an epidemic of amoebic dysentery broke out in the Port Area camp in Manila where I was imprisoned. This was a labor camp and the Jap commander published an order stating that all men infected would be sent to the Bilabid Hospital. No one wanted to leave. The port area camp was a good camp in comparison with the others.

Toward the latter part of March I had terrific pains in the stomach and I was sent to Bilabid with the disease. The treatment took about two weeks and when I had recovered the Japs put me to work on a farm at Cabanatuan, the main prison camp.

Cabanatuan was much different from the other camps where I had been. The food there was meager and the water scarce. The only way we could bathe was in a bucket. When we finished our work at night we couldn't read because the Japs permitted us no lights. *12-23-45*

There was no life whatsoever. We did have a pretty fair band which we made up ourselves, and I must say that it was a good one. The band played for us on Wednesday and Friday evenings but we were so miserable we couldn't enjoy the music.

Rumor Brings Hope Of Relief

In early July it was rumored that a ship-load of prisoners would be sent to Japan. Everybody was eager to go. At Cabanatuan we were starving to death. We wanted to go anywhere. It might be better, we thought—it couldn't be worse.

A few days later, we were told that those of us who wanted to go could turn in their names.

I had already turned in my name to go when I learned that I had tonsillitis. Our doctors tried to have me left behind but the Japs already had my name and nothing could be done about it.

Those of us who were chosen to go were taken to Bilabid by

truck and there each of us was issued a pair of Jap pants and a U. S. Army shirt to wear during the trip. *Alabama*

The following morning, each man was given a rice ball which was to be our breakfast and dinner. It was our first meal since noon, the day before.

Breakfast over, the group was divided into six units and the Japs told us to smoke our last cigarette because, they said, after we had boarded the ship, we couldn't smoke again until we had reached our destination.

When we had finished our cigarettes, we began the 2 1-2 mile march to the docks. I must say that we Americans—even if we were hungry—really looked good as we walked down the streets of Manila.

We arrived at the docks about 10 o'clock and the Japs began herding us aboard the ship, Nyssui Maru, in single file. It was a slow process because each man as he arrived on deck was thoroughly searched by the Jap sentries. My turn came about noon, and as I reached the top of the main deck, I was ordered by the guard to take off my shoes. Knowing the Jap custom of removing your shoes before entering a house, I made no objections, and with my shoes tied about my neck I descended into the stifling hot hold of the ship to join the rest of my unfortunate comrades.

1,500 Men Crowded Into Hold

The hold was unbearable. Five minutes after I had been pushed through the hatchway my clothes were ringing wet with perspiration. All about me men were fainting from heat exhaustion. We were so crowded we didn't even have standing room—we were packed tighter than sardines in a can and the deck on which we stood was toe-deep in human sweat. *12-23-45*

There was a warrant officer among us who could speak Nipponese. Through him our doctors gained permission from the Japs to take the heat exhaustion cases to the top-side for air and for the better part of the day we carried men up the ladder to revive in the fresh air. We left them in the open just long enough to regain consciousness and then returned them to the hold so that others might have the space on the open deck.

It was torture being crowded as we were in the after hold of that ship, and I am sure it was intentional because the Nyssui Maru was large enough to quarter 3,000 men comfortably; yet the 1,500 of us were cramped into one small compartment below decks.

Later that afternoon, our interpreter got permission from the Japs to move 900 of us to a forward hold.

Men Were Mad With Hunger

By the time all of us had been shifted around, we were pretty hungry and the Japs told our officers to come get our food. Nearly insensible from the heat, thirst and hunger we all clamored at once for the food. It was every man for himself. Some of us ate once; others twice; some ate as many as six times and others didn't eat at all.

I ate once because an officer said, "Let's feed that dark boy—he's the only one of his kind over here." After eating we fell asleep unaware of our surroundings. We were dead on our feet.

Food was served twice a day—if you can call a cup of rice, food. One cup of water was supposed to be issued at meal times but it was not. The Japs used our water ration as an instrument to torture us with. I was so thirsty and miserable that I forgot my tonsillitis completely. I wasn't even hungry—all I wanted was water.

Nyssui Maru a "Hellship"

Crowded as we were, half of us had to stand throughout night while the others slept. None of us could lie down.

We stayed in Manila Bay for five days—hungry, thirsty and exhausted from the heat. It was like sitting in hell. We couldn't move without touching someone. We just sat there twenty-four hours a day.

On July 20, we got under way and, five days later, when we reached Formosa, we were on the verge of insanity.

There were among us two chaplains, and to one of them, Father Riley, we owe our lives for his good work.

At Formosa, the Japs took on a cargo of sugar and since it was to be loaded in the hold beneath ours, we were herded onto the deck, the first opportunity we had in ten days for a breath of fresh air—I'm telling you it nearly strangled us.

The Japs crowded us into a space on deck so small we didn't have sitting room. The sun was unbearably hot and our tongues were parched from thirst. Several of the men passed out from heat exhaustion. There was plenty of fresh water. But not for us. The Japs were bathing in it and there were fresh water hoses all over the ship.

And while our tongues were parching from thirst, the Japs grinned at us.

We could visualize water—fresh water, all kinds of water—and how it tastes.

"Holy Mary, Bless Us"

On that day Father Riley told us "I don't know what day it is, but let's call it Sunday. And he opened his prayer book and read these words:

"Holy Mary, Mother of God, bless us now in the hour of our destiny, Amen." And we weary souls repeated the words in unison.

That same day we left Formosa and were again en route to Japan. *12-23-45*

The second night out, we were aroused from our troubled sleep by a flash of light coming from a ship in our convoy. It had been torpedoed. When I awoke, Father Riley was praying aloud and we prayed with him until we had recovered from our fears.

Death Was Aboard

A day's journey from Japan, two of the men died. We gave them a good burial. We had Holy Communion and Catholic High Mass. We also had the Jewish Passover and we all ate leavened bread which Father Riley had succeeded in keeping from the Japs. *Montgomery Advertiser*

I remembered Father saying that it was the first time in the history of the Catholic religion that High Mass and Passover had been celebrated together on a prison ship.

The next day we neared Kyushu, an island of southern Japan. By sundown were along side the docks at Myi and our captors told us we were to disembark the next day. *12-23-46*

All that night was turmoil. We had to go through the routine dysentery check-up and that took all night long. In the morning we were put on deck while the Japs unloaded the sugar from the hold beneath ours. I felt like I hadn't slept in a month.

As we left the ship, I said, "Goodbye and good riddance, you miserable Nyssui Maru! You have been more miserable than the infamous 'Death March of Bataan'".

Saved by His Face

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.



FLYING OFFICER ADE HYDE, of Murray Town, Sierra Leone, British West Africa, who joined the RAF with Lt. Smith. He is 30 years old, and is stationed in England.

makes 40 pounds a month. A European private, or non-commissioned officer in the RAF would have been offered a salary of not less than 400 pounds yearly.

The crew of the plane which was shot down over Germany on Nov. 19, 1943. Lt. John H. Smyth, extreme right, a native of Sierra Leone, was the only colored member of the crew and only one of three who lived to bail out.

12-22-45

By THOMAS DECKER

SIERRA LEONE, B.W.A. — A Royal Air Force plane was shot down over Ludwigshave, Germany, on Nov. 19, 1943. It was during one of the famous 1000-bomber raids. Of the crew of seven, only three were alive to bail out after the plane had unloaded its bombs on the target.

One of those men was Flight Lt. John H. Smyth, a full-blooded, 30-year-old African, who was born and educated here. He is tall and stately, well over six feet. He joined the RAF with four other Sierra Leoneans in November, 1941.

After 18 months of training and preliminary duties, he was commissioned in March, 1943, as a pilot officer (navigator). His efficiency and hard work earned him the rank of flying officer shortly afterward.

Lt. Smyth says his rank and color saved him from worse treatment than he received in the German prison camp.

Speculating upon the possibility of escaping into neutral territory just after he had bailed out, he removed his rank badges.

But soon he had to produce them in order that he might be treated as an officer and so avoid acute mal-treatment which had already begun.

"On the whole," he said, "I was treated slightly better than European prisoners of war because of my color. 12-22-45"

"The Germans were probably hoping that they could get me to

arrange "Free West Africa" radio propaganda in the same way an Indian was persuaded to arrange "Free India" propaganda."

These broadcasts were intended to spread Nazi and Fascist doctrines.

While being transferred from one prison camp to another by train, Lt. Smyth ran into an Allied air raid over Germany.

The Germans abandoned the train and made for safety. They ordered prisoners to remain in their coach, and trained machine guns on the coach so that the order would be obeyed.

The bombing was heavy, but the prisoners' coach was the only object in the area that was not wiped out.

On May 12, 1945, the Russians overran Pomerania in Eastern Germany and the camp where Lt. Smyth was held was liberated.

The Russians gave Lt. Smyth a hearty reception. The major invited him to dinner, took photographs with him, and took him on sight-seeing trips.

Asked his impression of British airmen, the West African said that many were very friendly, but were nevertheless very ignorant about colonial matters and African peoples. 12-22-45

Some of them, he added, seemed to have the idea that all Africans were naked savages and had tails.

Lt. Smyth's decorations include the French and German Medals, the 1939-1943 Star and the Defense Medal. He has traveled in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and his flying duties covered much of Europe.

After his discharge from the service, he plans to return to Sierra Leone where he will form an air club. There are nearly 100 West Africans in the RAAF.

He has been offered the rank of sub-inspector of police at a salary of 170 pounds yearly. He now

Tuskegee Grad Found Living in Holland; Sons Nazi Prisoners

By SGT. PEYTON GRAY

HOLLAND — Living modestly in a small, quiet and obscure Dutch village near the German border is a Tuskegee Institute graduate and veteran of World War I whose constant prayer is that the inevitable fall of Germany will return his two Nazi-interned sons to him.

He is Robert Young, 49, native of Reading, Pa., who later adopted Pittsburgh as his home. His dad, West Young, 75; his mother, Mrs. Betsy Young and two brothers still reside in the Smoky City's West end while other relatives live in Ohio.

Mr. Young had just completed a course in blacksmithing at Tuskegee when the war broke out. He volunteered, was put into the 96th Infantry Division and sent to France. When discharged in 1919 Young was a sergeant.

While seeing some of the sights at the French port of Brest, Young met his future wife, married, obtained work in an auto factory and settled down to start a family.

In 1926 the Youngs tired of France, moved to Holland and set up a small blacksmith shop. Customers were the neighboring farmers and local residents clinging to the Horse and Buggy period.

Business was brisk. Mr. Young made good money, and saved it. His family includes three boys and three girls, who learned to speak French, Dutch and a smattering of German.

The Youngs lived quietly and were liked in their community. Evenings were spent around the kitchen stove listening to the radio and to Papa Young tell of the wonder-land, America. On Saturday evenings he joined the neighbors at the local cafe drinking beer and cognac and swapping yarns. But things were moving too smoothly. War clouds in Europe were gathering.

Mid-December of 1941, the Nazi Wehrmach rolled across the border carpet-sweeping everyone and everything in its path. Mr. Young was a direct target.

He was a colored American, his children half-colored. Papa Young and two sons, Edward, 18, and Paul, 16, were taken prisoners and shipped to an internment camp. Mrs. Young was also taken into custody but released the following day to care for a sick daughter.

Mr. Young stayed in a concentration camp for more than two years when he was temporarily

released to visit his daughter, who was not expected to live. He was ordered to report to local Nazi authorities regularly until the child either died or recovered.

When she died, Mr. Young "hid out" until the arrival of American tanks rumbling through Holland chased the Nazi-men into Germany. The Dutch were free.

The former Pennsylvanian said he experienced some rough treatment in the concentration camps along with 42 other colored Americans. Food was terrible, work hard and floggings at pistol-point frequent, he said. But that was heavenly compared to the inhuman atrocities and tortures heaped upon Jewish internees.

Mr. Young said he was a prisoner at the time 3 million Polish Jews were cremated alive. He related one incident when a wealthy Jew was forced under guard to toss the members of his own family into an inferno realizing only too well that some fellow internee would deal him the same fate.

During his 25 years in France and Holland, Mr. Young has seen colored people occasionally, but had not talked with one since his buddies embarked for the States at the close of World War I.

He was overwhelmed with joy to welcome the first wave of Yank Tanks last September, especially the following colored troops.

He still has quite some money saved up, is existing fairly well despite the shortage of foodstuffs.

"A young man has a growing desire to travel and experience excitement but when he nears the half-century mark he longs to see the ole homestead again." So Mr. Young concluded, "as soon as possible I'll be heading for America and the good ole Keystone State of Pennsylvania."

First 99th P.W. Awaits Jap Fight

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ANP)—Second Lt. William E. Griffin, first member of the 99th Fighter Squadron to be captured by the Germans, returned home last week to spend his 60-day leave anticipating a fight against the Japs.

He spent 17 months in a prison camp near Chieti, Italy, which was liberated by the Russians on May 2. He had lost 30 pounds.

He met his two brothers who are still in Rouen, France, while recuperating at the St. Valery Redistribution Center nearby. He said

2 Negro Pilots From New York Age 332nd Fighter Group Found In POW Camp

WITH U. S. ARMY FORCES, REIMS, FRANCE. — Two pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group of the 15th Air Force in Italy were among personnel released from the Nazi prisoner of war camp at Mooseberg, Germany, on April 29, 1945, the War Department reported on Monday.

They were Captain Armour McDaniel, 804 East Church street, Martinsville, Va., and Second Lieutenant Lloyd S. Hathcock, 407 West 5th street, Dayton, Ohio.

Captain McDaniel, commander of the 301st Fighter Squadron, is a veteran of 69 missions over enemy lines. He was shot down over Berlin on March 24, 1945, by a German jet-fighter while escorting bombers over the German capital. Credited with shooting down one ME-109 and destroying 6 planes on the ground, he has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters.

Lieutenant Hathcock was captured in May 1944, when he was forced down behind enemy lines north of Rome while engaged in ferrying P-47 Thunderbolts to a new base. He was interned in Nazi POW camps in Italy and Germany. At one time he suffered a broken ankle when forced to jump from a moving truck to avoid strafing Allied planes.

he hoped to get into the fight against the Japs.

First 99th P.W. Loses 30 Pounds In Nazi Prison

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—The first member of the famed 99th Fighter squadron to be captured by the Germans returned to his home here last week to spend his 60-day leave in anticipa-

tion of joining the fight against the Japs.

Second Lt. William E. Griffin, who was captured by the Nazis when his flak-crippled plane made a crash-landing while on a dive-bombing mission along the Italian border on Jan. 15, 1944, sweated out 17 months in an enemy prison camp near Chieti, Italy.

Although the first Negro to be captured by the Germans in the European theatre of operations, he could not deny nor affirm prison camp atrocity stories because of U.S. Army censorship. He revealed, however, that he had lost 30 pounds when the Russians liberated him on May 2.

He expressed regret that his capture prevented him from adding to his 23 missions but was delighted to receive his accumulated pay for 17 months, which amounted to \$2,894.

Lt. Griffin plans to rest with the hope that he will be permitted to get into the fight against the Japs.

Imprisoned Pilots Treated Better Than 477th Trainee

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with
332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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RIMINI, Italy—(By Cable)—
"All of the time I was in enemy
hands, I received better treatment
than that I hear was given the
477th Bombardment Group in the
States."

The above statement, made by
one of the liberated 332nd Fighter
group pilots, could have been
made by any of the thousands of
Pan Yank prisoners freed from
POW camps throughout Germany
as far as sameness goes.

Moreover, a change from the
rest of the stories I have seen in
daily papers as to prisoner treat-
ment is revealed in the stories
of two repatriated pilots, members
of Col. B. O. Davis Jr.'s group.

One was told by Second Lt.
James Hall, 738 Fairmont St.,
N.W., Washington, whom I inter-
viewed upon his return to group
headquarters after having been
captured in Austria in April.

The other was related by First
Lt. Luther Smith, Des Moines,
Iowa, as he lay on a hospital cot
in Naples, recovering from in-
juries received when he bailed out
over Yugoslavia.

Other POW's Treated Worse
I have found that on the whole
our men as a group rarely fared
as badly as did the general run
of POW's while held by Germans.

One said, "There was absolute
ly no special treatment. That is
more than I can say for a lot of
things I had to put up with be-
fore I went down."

Colliding with another P-51 dur-
ing a bomb run over an Austrian
target, April 12, Lt. Hall crash-
landed in a Rumanian wheat field
behind the Russian lines.

Aided by Rumanians
Rumanian partisans assisted
Hall to the Russian lines from
where he got in touch with the
American legation.

Hall was held in protective cus-
tody along with 80 other Ameri-
can flyers until they could be
flown back to Allied-held terri-
tory.

Hall's greatest surprise was in
finding two other 332nd pilots,
missing since the Berlin raid last
March, in the same camp.

They were Flight Officers James
T. Mitchell, Gadsden, Ala., and
Leon W. Spears of Pueblo, Col.,
long given up as missing in ac-
tion.

Russian Unselfishness Cited

The three pilots had a grand re-
union during the week before
being shipped back to the group
by way of Odessa and Istanbul
to Italy. All three had nothing but
the highest praise in the way they
were treated by Russians.

"They had little food, even for
themselves, but everything they
had was ours," declared Hall, son
of Dr. James L. Hall of the Wash-
ington address and a graduate of
NYU, now sweating out the group's
return to the States.

A Prisoner 7 Months
Flying his 70th and last mis-
sion, the completion of which
would have made him eligible for
return to the States, First Lieut-
enant Smith, a Veteran 332nd
pilot, bailed out of his burning
P-51 over Yugoslavia on Friday,
Oct. 13.

He was captured when the Ger-
man oil train he was strafing blew
up, setting his plane afire.

He sustained a broken leg when
he landed in a treetop, and was
found by German troops who re-
leased him from his parachute
and took him to a Luftwaffe Hos-
pital where he was given first
aid and his broken leg was dressed.

Leg Never Set
During the seven months he
stayed in different German Army
hospitals, Smith's leg was never
set by the Nazis, who always gave
evasive reasons for not treating
the leg.

Smith said, "They had no medi-
cine. If a fellow's leg was bad,
they took it off because there was
no other way of fixing it."

"If you were badly wounded,
you might have your dressings
changed every five days. Some-
times I wonder how I made it."

Food in the German POW
camps and hospitals was very bad,
he said, declaring that his diet
consisted of vegetable soups and
black bread. His weight dropped
from 145 to 75 pounds.

Sought Vital Information

Moreover, German intelligence
officers kept Smith's time well
taken up, sending in Luftwaffe pi-
lots to talk to him every day in
the hope of prying military infor-
mation out of him.

They knew the 332nd flew red-
tailed P-51's but were not sure
what type of plane he flew, he
explained.

In most of the hospitals, Smith
was placed by German Army per-
sonnel in wards with German pa-
tients on cots on either side of
him. All were given the same
treatment.

Met 7 from 92nd
The only colored persons Smith

met while interned were seven
captured 92nd Division soldiers.
The first visitor Smith had at the
Allied hospital was his brother,
Howard, who is stationed here in
Italy near the hospital.

After spending the last two
weeks in five different Allied hos-
pitals and undergoing three opera-
tions to save his leg, Smith de-
clared he was elated over the
news that within the next ten
days he would be flown to a hos-
pital in the United States near his
wife, Mrs. Susie L. Smith, and his
parents.

332nd Pilot, Former PW, Says Raids Tough to Take

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



CAPT. ARMOUR G. MCDANIELS

BALTIMORE pilot, who spent 36 days in two
German prison camps.

"The worst part of the whole
experience was an RAF raid the
second night in camp. I'd been
dishing it out for more than a
year but it is a different story
when you're on the receiving
end," declared Capt. Armour G.
McDaniels, 332nd Fighter Group

visiting Lester Winston, 503 N.
Arlington Ave., Baltimore, dur-
ing part of his 60-day leave, was
shot down by a German jet-pro-
pelled plane during an air bat-
tle near Berlin last March 24 and
liberated when General Patton's
3rd Army captured Munich Apr.
29.

"We knew it wouldn't be long
before we would be freed, but it
was hard just waiting," he re-
called.

On 69th Mission

A native of Martinsville, Va.,
the 29-year-old flyer, who was
serving as acting commander of
the 301st Fighter Squadron at
the time, was on his sixty-ninth
mission. The group was escorting
heavy bombers on a raid on the
Daimler Benz tank works, 50 miles
south of Berlin, when they
were attacked by a flight of Jer-
ry jet-propelled planes.

Pilots of the 332nd shot down
three of the jet-propelled air-
craft, but Captain McDaniels was
unlucky. His plane received a
hit which tore part of the wing
off and he was forced to para-
chute to safety from an altitude
of about 20,000 feet.

Changed Camps

"I landed in the midst of a
flock of German soldiers and for
a few minutes was really afraid
of what to expect," Captain Mc-
Daniels said. "After much dis-
cussion, they put me in an old
city jail for a night then marched
me to Nuremberg, where I spent
about a week before being trans-
ferred to the big camp at
Moosberg."

"It was there that an RAF raid
sent us scurrying to foxholes,
and gave me first-hand knowledge
of what air power can do."

"We lived off bread, tea and
potatoes, for the most part, with
a little meat occasionally, but I
didn't lose any weight."

Captain McDaniels, who wants
to stay in the Army when the
war is over, will report to At-
lantic City at the end of his
leave for reassignment—probably
to Godman Field, Ky., where the
477th Composite Group is sta-
tioned.

SOLDIER BURNED TO DEATH WITH 1100 PRISONERS

Charred Remains Taken From Murder Barn At Gardelegen

GARDELEGEN, Germany—An American Negro soldier was one of 1,100 victims

brutally burned to death in an old barn near here by teen-age Nazis in one of the most bestial exhibitions of the present war.

The soldier, known only as "John," had allegedly been confined with the political prisoners he died with because of his frequent attempts to escape. Survivors questioned by American army officers following the Allied break-through reported that the political prisoners had been hunted like deer before the arrival of U. S. troops.

The Volkssturm (People's Army), assisted by the Jugend (Hitler Youth), was called out to conduct the massacre which took place in a large barn here. Some of the unfortunate prisoners were shot, others burned. Although some of the Nazis who took part in the mass murders have been apprehended and others have been suicides, the ringleaders are still at large.

It is said that the Negro soldier and the other prisoners were murdered because Nazi party leaders considered them a threat to the personal safety of their Nazi superiors if liberated.

The Gardelegen incident is by no means the first instance of a Negro soldier being brutally murdered by the Nazis. The bodies of a large number of Negro members of the Third Army were found in the Rhine area recently where they had been shot through the head by Nazi SS troops.

Hero Found No Jim Crow In Nazi Camp

By JAMES E. SMITH
(New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—Living proof that Negro soldiers are giving life and

umb in this world struggle for democracy is given by 24-year-old Pfc. Morris Carter of Starkville, Miss. Pfc. Carter, the only Negro service man to be repatriated from Germany aboard the Swedish Exchange liner Gripsholm, which docked last week at Jersey City, returned in high spirits but without his right leg.

The young soldier, a member of the all-Negro 92nd Infantry Division, now fighting on the Italian front, was with the first combat team to be thrown against the Germans from the 92nd.

ALL PRISONERS
TREATED SAME

The young hero said it is true that he is happy to be home but he had not fared badly and he had not been discriminated against in any manner during the time he was a German prisoner. He also stated he had heard nothing concerning the supposed Aryan supremacy and that he had been treated by his captors just as any of the white soldiers had.

The Mississippian said he had been wounded while on a night patrol with 20 other men from his outfit last September 17 when they "ran into a whole lot of Jerries."

"We didn't even have time to get out of the troop carrier in which we were riding before they opened up on us," he asserted. "A couple of the boys were hit while still trying to get out and I hadn't gone very far when a bullet tore my leg completely up."

"I'm not sure," he explained, "but I think my platoon sergeant (Sgt. Fred Rhodes of Baton Rouge, La.) got the Jerry who plugged me."

Carter believes the only thing that kept him from bleeding to death was a tent guy rope which he carried with him. He tied it around the upper part of his shattered leg as a tourniquet to check the flow of blood.

"I was hit about 11 o'clock that night," he stated, "and I lay where I fell until about ten the next morning. After I was hit I tried to yell for help but so much firing was going on around us that nobody could hear me."

He said a buddy was lying not more than 25 feet from him but he was dead. His name was Norman A. Gray and came from somewhere in Maryland. "The next morning the Germans came around to look things over, and when they saw me they booted me in the side to see if I was alive. Then I was picked up and loaded on a jeep."

SEGREGATED ON LINER

He said it seemed a year before they reached a field hospital where he received the first medical care after he had been hit. His leg had been hanging by a small piece of skin up to this time. It was immediately amputated just below the knee.

He remained in the hospital in Northern Italy for a month and from there he was taken to Reslaff Friersing in Germany where he remained from October 31, 1944 until Jan. 22, 1945.

Here he was the only Negro in the hospital and was treated as any other patient during his stay. It was not until he came aboard the liner Gripsholm did he see any

other Negro. He occupied a cabin with them, a wounded Negro Canadian soldier and a Negro civilian. The soldier was Guy M. Francis of Toronto and the civilian was Oscar Lee Mathis of Way Cross, Ga.

Carter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jones Carter and has been married six years to his wife, Laureatha, all of Starkville. He owns a small 20-acre farm outside his home town but does not think he will want to live in Mississippi after what he has been through.

Negro Yank Victim of Nazi Murderers

GARDELEGEN, Germany—(AP)—An investigation has revealed that an American Negro prisoner of war was killed in the mass murder of 1,100 political prisoners in a barn near here.

The Negro's body was found in the murder bath. Survivors disclosed that he was an American Negro soldier known only as "John" who had been put among the doomed political prisoners because he had tried to escape to often.



PRISONER OF WAR—Lt. Richard D. Macon (above) is a prisoner of war of Germany, according to word received by his wife who is bookkeeper at Miles College in Birmingham. Lt. Macon

who entered the Army in March, 1943, was serving as a pilot with the 15th Air Force in Italy at the time he was captured in August, 1944. He has been overseas since July, 1944, having received his wings and commission at Tuskegee Army Air Base in February, 1944. In letters received by his wife, Lt. Macon praised the work of the Red Cross in his prison camp. He is a graduate of Miles College and a former teacher in Fayette, Ala. His mother and father reside at 524 South 63rd Street, Fairfield.



PRISONER OF GERMANY—Sgt. Cleveland Parmer (above), whose mother resides in Pigeon Creek, has been a prisoner of war of Germany since October, according to word received by his family from the War Department. He entered the service in October, 1942, and has been overseas since July of last year. His mother received three letters from him since his capture.

"I Found Myself A Prisoner Of The Germans"

Norfolk Youth Tells Of Nazi Prison Camp Horror

Journal and Guide 6-2-45

Norfolk, Va.

By J. ANDREW BOWLER

NORFOLK—Saturday morning, May 19, was the beginning of a grand and glorious day at the Mitter home, 704 Washington avenue. For on that date Sgt. Milton C. Mitter, Army of the United States, walked into his mother's arms after having been previously reported missing in action somewhere in Europe by the War Department.

Many of his friends and buddies had given up hope of ever seeing the youth again but not so with Mrs. Mitter who held out hope that her boy would some day return. Even this hope, which only a mother can hold, was not sufficient to make her realize that she was not still dreaming and she found it impossible to say the many things she felt in her heart.

Captured by the Germans last December, and thrown into a concentration camp to be liberated by American troops months later is an experience few people can talk about and Sgt. Mitter, like others who suffered this lot, does not care to think, must less talk, about his experiences. "I'd much prefer to forget it all as a bad nightmare," he says.

After impressing upon the reticent soldier that his fellow man was anxious to learn something realistic and unglamorous



SERGEANT MITTER

about the war in Europe, Sgt. Mitter relaxed and related a few of the incidents during his captivity under the watchful eyes of the brutal German SS Guards as a prisoner of war.

"I was with a detachment of the 4009th QM Truck Company,

they kept continually on the march sleeping at times in the open and at others in places without roofs. (the Allies sure did a good job of bombing) creating a hardship that started to tell on the men and several of them fell out only to be shot by the cruel SS guards.

"Many of the men tried to escape and were shot. It was not long before we all discovered that the SS guards were giving us the opportunity to escape so that they could shoot us. One of the guards remarked that the more who tried to escape, the more food for us who remained.

"On Feb. 15, we reached Reichenbach, not far from Berlin and were crowded into box cars for transportation. The cars normally hold forty persons, but they crowded 75 and 80 into each car. On that trip the Allied bombers flew overhead, the sky was black with them, and they started bombing the area and some planes started strafing our train, not knowing we were Allied troops.

MANY SOLDIERS KILLED IN STRAFING

"Many soldiers were killed in those cars, at least 20 were shot to pieces in the car I was in. The danger was so great, and the car so full of blood, that we begged to be allowed to get on the ground and take chances of dodging the bullets from our own planes. The guards granted this and it saved many of our lives, and no doubt saved mine.

"We were fed some bread and wa' on our trips from one camp to another but when we reached the town of Dudestadt there was no food and for ten days, from March 15-25, we did not have a thing to eat. It looked as if the Germans were going to starve us to death. The thing that saved us at this critical period was a few Red Cross boxes from the States. And were we glad to see them!

"The boxes were divided among us, a box for four men, containing cigarettes, chocolate bar, sugar, coffee, sardines, salmon and crackers. Had it not been for these boxes many of us would have passed out. Dudestadt is the worst camp in Germany!

"On the morning of April 12, while confined in the concentration camp at Dillfort, not far from Hanover, some one remarked that he thought he saw a 'jeep.' We were wide awake then, it was 7:40 a. m. but none ventured to make sure. Finally, a soldier walked toward us and said, 'Boys, don't you know you are free men?' It was too good to be true and we nearly went wild; the majority of us fell on our knees and prayed.

we were so grateful. I know we must have looked silly for we pulled at the soldiers' uniforms, hugged and kissed them and every man had tears in his eyes. That is one day I will never get out my mind.

THE WORM FINALLY TURNS—AND HOW!

"Our liberators turned out to be Doughboys of the 83rd Infantry Division. Their commanding officer lined us all up for inspection, distributed some side arms and rifles, and told us to search every house in town, find every SS guard who might be hiding and bring him in dead or alive. 'Take what food you can find in the town and fill yourselves with it,' he ordered.

"That was all we wanted to hear. The group I was with entered a house and ordered the German woman to cook us some food—and fast. She prepared some eggs and we asked for meat. She said there was none, but just then one of the boys spied a cow outside and shot it.

"Together we dressed the cow and got the woman to cook parts of it, the rest we carted to our new headquarters. In that same house we found in the cellar one of the SS guards hiding under a cot and demanded he come out. He refused, so we went for one of the 83rd Division boys who ordered him out with a machine gun. Once outside the Nazi 'superman' refused to go further, so the little Doughboy from Brooklyn just let him have it and we left him where he fell.

WE SEE THE LIGHTS OF NEWPORT NEWS

"All of the war prisoners were driven to Hanover where we boarded planes for Le Havre, France and from Le Havre we embarked for the United States by boat. It was a long trip across the ocean and it looked as if we would never reach our destination. But one night last week about eleven o'clock, while we were all below deck for inspection, one of the officers told us we could go on deck for the night and, lo and behold, when we got on deck we could see the lights of Newport News!

We were docked, and believe me those lights were the prettiest I have ever seen. They were so pretty I did not go below any more that night but sat up on deck and looked at them until dawn.

"Yes, I am a mighty happy man to be home and expect to enjoy my 60-day furlough to the utmost. I report back to camp on the 19th of July and where I go from there I don't know, but I am not worrying, for I think now I possess a charmed life."

560-1945
125 Negro War Prisoners Are Liberated
Detroit Tribune
 3-3-45 Mich.

By Charles Leob

WITH THE LIBERATION FORCES AT LOS BANOS, February 27 — (By Wireless) — The remainder of some 125 Afro-Americans interned by Japanese after Pearl Harbor were among 2,142 nationals liberated from this prison camp five miles inside enemy lines by elements of the Eleventh Airborne Division in a perfectly timed landing. The Paratroops and Amphibious landings were supported by Guerrillas. 3-3-45

Among the first Negroes liberated, I interviewed Leslie Calvin Brown, with his wife, Pilar and seven-week old baby, was brought in by an Amtrac. He said the attack was a complete surprise and described the delirious welcome given the soldiers.

"Early in the morning," he said, "we thought we heard tanks. At about 7 o'clock, we saw the first Paratrooper drop from the sky. As we watched shots rang out and in a flash, Guerrillas and GI's were entering our barracks, throwing our possessions together and leading us to the amtracs. The Jap jailers made a run for it but most of them were killed in flight.

"There were about 100 guards when you came. The Japs had stopped all rations several days ago and my wife and I were down to two grams of rice and a quarter can of Klem milk." 3-3-45

Brown, a graduate of the Boston Conservatory, was caught in the Philippines a few days after coming there to marry a Mestizo girl. Their baby was born in prison. The wife is the daughter of the late Dr. William Birch of Indianapolis, who was a member of the 24th Infantry Dental Corps. Brown's last residence was in Los Angeles.

Other Americans liberated included Robert Lee Thomas, 24, of 2067 Madison avenue, New York City, interned January 6, 1942. He had attended New York City college and had been an author and lecturer. He was a civilian employee of the government in the Philippines when interned.

Randal Wright, 2528 West Cum-

berland, Philadelphia. His wife escaped and lived with Guerillas and is still believed alive. He sends a message to his mother, Mrs. Leatha Banks, 224 West Washington street, Paulsboro, N.J. that he will be home soon. 3-3-45

The balance of those liberated are veterans who have lived in the Philippines for years, married and lost contact with home. These include Robert G. Woods, a native of St. Louis whose sister, Mary Lattimore, still lives there; John Mitchell and William C. Caldwell of Houston, Texas; Samuel McEntee of Rome, Georgia; David Bill Thompson, 4026 Avenue I, Galveston, Texas; Andy Jones, of San Francisco, California; Lloyd Porter, Atlanta, Georgia; Andrew Clark, 67, Jacksonville, Florida; Littleton Chatman, 63, Mobile, Alabama; and James Haley of Franklin, Ky.



THOMAS L. STOKES

Servicemen Show No Rabid Intolerance
 #712722 Construction Co.

WASHINGTON.—Life moves on like a book of short stories in which the same characters reappear, except that in war the pace is swifter, the events more dramatic, the tragedies so much more frequent and poignant.

Here in this space, only a week ago, there was related the story of the American Legion post at Hood River, Ore., which had erased the names of 16 Japanese-Americans, or Nisei as they are called, from its honor roll, and how National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling intervened with the post, in vain, to recall its action. 2-20-45

Now comes the story of one of the 16, Frank T. Hachiya, 25, of Portland, Ore., who died a hero's death after a dangerous mission for which he volunteered at Leyte.

It was one of those sharp camoes of war. The regiment was in a difficult position. Information of the disposition of the enemy was needed. Hachiya volunteered to lead a patrol across a valley swept by Japanese fire. He got out ahead of the patrol. A Jap sniper shot him through the stomach. He was able to make his way back up the hill. But the bullet had passed through his liver. He died on the operating table.

What the American boys who served with him thought of him is shown by the fact that nearly everybody in the regiment volunteered to give blood transfusions to try to save his life.

Will his name go back on the honor roll?

In this same place, too, only a week ago, was told the story of

Prisoners of War- Pacific

the Disabled American Veterans post at Hermiston, Ore., which had voted against admission of Japanese-American or Negro veterans to membership. 2-20-45

Now comes the copy of a letter which an American aviator, a first lieutenant, has sent to that post, from which the following is quoted:

"I read in the morning paper where you had recently voted never to allow a Japanese or a colored veteran to become members of your post.

"It is impossible for me to convey to you the great dismay that seeing this caused me.

"I have just returned from a tour of combat duty as a navigator on a B-24 with the 15th Air Force and am fully aware of the great esteem in which the colored fighter pilots are held by the bomber boys they cover. Are they fighting for the continuance of

Vets of Philippine War Among Group
 AFRO - American Ind. 34 Lt.
 2-17-45

Overjoyed as Tan Yanks Aid in Liberation; Father Greet GI Son

Liberated at Manila

Following is a partial list of former U.S. residents liberated from the Santo Tomas prison camp last week when their Jap captors were driven from Manila by U.S. troops:

- Richard Johnson, Philadelphia
- Wilson Carey, Richmond, Va.
- Calvin Paris, St. Louis
- Isaac L. Lloyd, Tarboro, N.C.
- William Scott, Wilkes County, Va.
- Charles Williams, Memphis, Tenn.
- Roger B. Carpenter, Bowling Green, Ky.
- Robert Cowans, Chattanooga, Tenn.
- George Chambers, Norfolk, Va.
- Henry McDaniels, Chickamauga, Ga.

2-17-45

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the Philippines
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MANILA—(By Cable)—If ever in my life I have felt pride in my race it was here, Tuesday, in the huge Santo Tomas Jap internment camp in the heart of Manila.

I shouted it aloud as I talked to over forty-five happy liberated men and women (mostly native-born wives of these men) were so overjoyed to see some one of their own race colored prisoners of war. The haggard and undernourished in the uniform of their country that they could hardly tell me their names as they crowded around me.

The old soldiers drew up to attention and with a proud smile each one saluted a convoy of tan Yanks driving in truck loads of sorely needed rations for the starving internees. 2-17-45

24th Infantry, 9th Cavalry Vets

These colored internees, most of whom were formerly members of the old 24th Infantry and 9th Cavalry, old Philippine units of the U.S. Army, were largely retired veterans. Many worked in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Department, while some were Civil Service employees and small business men.

When they were first rounded up, the Japs showed them more favor than they did the white internees, in the hope of fostering anti-white propaganda. But these sturdy former soldiers steadfastly stuck to the oath they took when they first entered the U.S. Army many years ago, before they came here to fight in the Philippine campaign, and stood shoulder to shoulder in humiliation after humiliation with the rest of the prisoners.

I rode into the burning city in a weapons carrier along with Clark Lee of the International News Service, Tom Atch, Acme photographer, and Dick Hanly, Yank correspondent.

Jap Snipers Still Active

As we rode through the streets between slowly advanc-

ing files of our troops, Jap snipers in second-story windows and on roof tops took two cracks at us. We put on speed and almost overturned when the truck struck the bodies of three dead Japs in the middle of the street. Among the men I talked to was Richard Johnson, brother of Matthew Johnson, 2900 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, who has been in the Philippines twenty years and saw his son for the first time in seven years when he came in with our troops as a supply truck driver.

Another was Wilson Carey, formerly of Richmond, Va., who came over with the 9th Cavalry in 1906 and was retired as a second lieutenant in 1932. He is a brother of Ernest Carey, who formerly lived on Fifty-fourth Street in Philadelphia.

Calvin Paris, 312 Pine Street, St. Louis, Mo., came here in 1937 and worked as an announcer for Radio Station KZAH. Isaac L. Lloyd, Tarboro, N.C., former telegraph operator and a retired soldier, has a cousin, Clara E. Farrell, in Caret, Va.

Also in the group are William Scott, Wilkes County, Ga.; Charles Williams, Memphis, Tenn.; Roger B. Carpenter, Bowling Green, Ky.; Robert Cowans, Chattanooga, Tenn., who has a brother, Miran Cowans, living at 518 Georgia Avenue, Northwest, Washington; Sgt. George Chambers, Norfolk, Va., who came over in 1900 as a member of the 24th; Henry McDaniels, Chickamauga, Ga., 24th Infantry veteran and now a Civil Service worker.

Service Troops Enter Battle

When their trucks were stalled by blown-out bridges dropped in the river by retreating Jap demolition units, colored service troops were hustled into front-line action against the Nips in house-to-house fighting through sniper-infested Manila.

These colored quartermaster supply drivers and their trucks were commanded by a white combat infantry commander of the 1st Cavalry Division as they swept into the Santo Tomas Jap internee civilian prison to free hundreds of American civilians.

Jesus Merritt, Philippine-born son of Julius Merritt of Cincinnati, Ohio, who came to the Philippines before the first World War, gave me an account of the treatment received by the prisoners.

His father died here in 1920 from a disease contracted while stationed in the islands attached to the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Merritt was forced to stay apart from the prisoners, but was fed the same rations—dirty rice stalks, dark bread and water. He had lost 20 pounds. His first words were: "Have they caught my brother?"

When told his brother was still fighting in the hills, Merritt wept and said, "Thank God; he is still carrying on where dad left off."

As our troops flushed the Japs from houses along the road to the city, tan Yanks rushed forward with sorely needed food for the relief of civilians.

Negro And White Seamen Prisoners

In Japan *The New York Review*
Birmingham, Alabama

NEW YORK — A United States Service representative will be flown from Okinawa to Japan to provide emergency services for American merchant seamen prisoners of war. It was announced this week by Douglas P. Falconer, executive director of the Service, a National War Fund agency. The

number of Negro and white merchant seamen held in Japan was not revealed. A spokesman for the USS said figures were being checked. It was pointed out that approximately 10 per cent of U. S. merchant seamen were Negroes. Word of the assignment of a USS ship to Japan with the approval of General MacArthur and the War Shipping Administration was received by Mr. Falconer this week in a cable from Otho J. Hicks, USS assistant executive di-



Pfc. Morris Carter of Starkville, Miss., is glad to be back, although in German prison camps he found no Jim Crow rules.

rector in charge of overseas operations, who is in Manila. A survey of the need for USS clubs for merchant seamen in Japan will be made.

To release USS personnel for expected assignment to Japan and China, three USS clubs in the Southwest Pacific are being closed and the personnel transferred to the Philippines for further assignment, Mr. Falconer said. He disclosed that a fourth USS club has been opened in the Philippines at Bantangas in South Luzon. The other clubs are Manila, Tacloban, Leyte, and San Fernando in the Lingayen Gulf. The new Bantangas club already has a daily attendance exceeding 300 merchant seamen. All of these USS clubs serve our merchant seamen with distinction as to race or color.

Negro Civilians In Jap Prison Held 3 Years

The Defender
Seamen On Big Liner

President Harrison Rescued From Cells

Chicago, Illinois 9-15-45
By DETON J. BROOKS

(Defender War Correspondent)

SHANGHAI, China. — It was V-J Day last Wednesday for 23 Negro internees of the Pootung civilian prison camp located opposite from Shanghai on the banks of the muddy

Yangtze river.

These Negro civilians, caught in the vortex of war far from home, were among the thousands of Americans and British who had just learned that they were free men for the first time since Pearl Harbor. Though the world had been celebrating the Jap collapse for nearly two weeks, in Shanghai, where formal transfer of authority from Japs to Chinese had not taken place, confirmation of surrender was slow in getting through to the internees.

This is what had happened to Pootung. Jap guards had withdrawn a few days earlier without explanation. News was sketchy, and no one knew the exact score. Early Wednesday morning an American liaison came, and later zooming planes parachuted relief supplies.

Mostly Seamen 9-15-45

It was into this emotional, news-hungry group, just made aware of their newly-gained freedom that I walked. A Britisher escorted me to the American section of a dilapidated red brick factory used by the Japs to quarter internees.

As we were the first American newsmen to visit their camp, you can visualize the reception among whites as well as colored. It was a scene I'll never forget. They devoured the crumbs of news and wanted to be filled in on every aspect of the war from Pearl Harbor to date. For two hours they queried me before I could get their story. It was like restoration of sight to the blind.

Most of the Negroes were crew members of the ill-fated 10,000-ton President Harrison, one of the first American ships captured when the Japs struck Dec. 7, 1941. The second cook told their story.

"After sailing from San Francisco under sealed orders on Oct. 17, 1941, we proceeded across the Pacific to Shanghai. Upon reaching Shanghai, we evacuated the 4th Division, U.S. Marine Corp. Nov. 27, and took them to the Philippines. On Dec. 4, we put to sea again. We knew things were tense, and as we steamed toward the China coast we could see the Jap steamer Nagasaki Maru following us. On the morning of the 8th, a Jap bomber flew over, dropping a flare and ordering us to stop.

Taken to Shanghai 9-15-45

"Shortly after that, we were ordered to proceed to Shanghai as prisoners-of-war. Our captain tried scuttling the ship but didn't succeed because we weren't loaded heavily enough to sink on the shoals. The Japs made us repair enough damage to take the ship into Shanghai where we were kept aboard as prisoners for nearly three months. All of us were released under surveillance except the officers, who were tried and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for scuttling their ship. In February, 1943, we were reinterned and have been here until today."

All the internees agree that the

lack of food and poor sanitation were the worst things they had to endure under the Japs. The one instance when there was mistreatment was when a guard hit one American with the butt of his rifle. However, this guard was removed by an officer when a report was made. In the Harrison crew were five

560-1945

Liberated Manila Frees 200 Negroes

By CHARLES LOEB

War Correspondent—(Combined Negro Press)

WITH GENERAL MACARTHUR'S ARMY IN MANILA—The flag of the United States of America was flying over the Philippine capital again this week after 3,500 civilian prisoners had been freed by one of the most daring raids ever made on an enemy stronghold in this area.

Included among the internees held since early 1942 at Santo Tomas were some British civilians and perhaps 200 Negro Americans.

When the liberating armies of General MacArthur hit Manila from the east and north Sunday, I entered the battered capital with Billy Rowe, of the Courier, and Francis Yancey, of the Afro-American.

We were assigned to the 37th Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler. We entered Manila through the northern suburbs following the capture of the airdrome at Grace Park.

It was dark, but we could see clouds of smoke, shooting skyward, and we could hear explosions which seemed to rock the earth around us.

Gen. MacArthur, who had made plans to enter the city with the spearhead, was prevented from doing so because of a dynamited bridge a few miles ahead of the brilliant commander's car. Gen. MacArthur turned back and entered the city by another route.

Two unidentified Negro outfits, described as port and transportation companies, and attached to the Sixth Army, were expected to participate in the final mopping-up phase of the campaign after a complete checkup on the civilian prisoners had been made.

From other correspondents who witnessed the freeing of thousands of "skin and bones" prisoners, I learned that a tank, armed with a 75-mm. gun, crashed into the Santo Tomas Camp before the Japanese guards had a chance to harm those still alive.

A tank commander had roared: "Open up this goddam palace before I blow it up."

When no guards appeared at the prison gates, the tank crashed through the steel gates, breaking chains and tearing down concrete posts as if the obstruction was nothing more than wood.

Several nurses, medical technicians and heroes from Bataan were among the first to be freed.

The 200 Negroes believed to be among those held in the Santo Tomas concentration camp were not identified immediately. If the report is correct, one of Gen. MacArthur's aides said, the list will be made public later this week.

War Prisoners

125 Negroes Liberated

By BILLY ROWE

Courier War Correspondent

LUZON—A total of 125 colored internees, held prisoners by the Japanese, have been liberated by invading American forces. These were among the thousands freed during four spectacular strikes by American GIs on closely guarded prison camps.

Ordinarily, the Forty-first Evacuation Hospital here would be empty and deserted. But, today, chattering groups of former prisoners, who spent three years of misery in internment camps, form an oasis of happiness in this desert of sadness and hate. They welcome every passing Yank with gratefulness shining in their eyes.

MIRACLE OF MODERN WAR

Gone is utter despair, the threat of starvation. The shock of daring rescue is no longer unbelievable. It is accepted as a miracle of modern war. To them, the long-awaited change has come. They have clean beds, wholesome food, and are surrounded by those who care.

Twenty colored victims of Japanese cruelty came ashore with internees released from Los Banos. First to arrive here was James Haley, formerly of Franklin, Ky. An old Army man, he came over during the Philippine insurrection. Many others followed Haley. Some were half starved; others stooped with age . . . but all bubbling over with a new enthusiasm. After being rushed here, they were checked, supplied cigarettes and comfortable articles by the Red Cross, and then placed in a long line, where they received their first complete meal in years.

RELEASE ALL CLAIMS

During my talks with them, I learned that none of this group suffered as did prisoners and internees liberated in earlier strikes. Most of the colored internees have released all claims on American family ties, but cling tenaciously to that birthright.

Mellowed by added age, sixty-nine-year-old Robert G. Woods, formerly of St. Louis, told an impressive yarn which is synonymous with those who have been through

Prisoners of War- Pacific

wars before. He came to the island as a captain with the Forty-ninth Infantry in 1900 after seeing seven years of service in the Cuban campaign. Following the Philippine incident of that decade, he became chief Philippine Army clerk, a position he held over forty years. He said his wife is Mrs. Bertie Woods, last reported residing at 1932 Chestnut Street, Oakland, Calif. He has a son in the Army and a daughter attending the University of California. When taken by the Japanese, he was in charge of the Philippine Army headquarters, records, and all civilian employees.

TELLS STIRRING STORY

Stirring is the story of John Mitchell, who came here in 1899 with the old Twenty-fourth Regiment from Houston, Tex. After three years of war, he worked for the Quartermaster Depot, and then turned prospector. He located, exchanged and bought mines for ten years. He made "a barrel of money," but lost it all at the advent of World War II. He resided in Mindanao before the attack on Pearl Harbor. When the Japanese invaded, he took to the hills and remained there eighteen months, but turned himself over to Japanese authorities in November of 1943 when he lost his only weapon. His son is a lieutenant in the U. S. Army.

I talked to the Rev. Andrew Clark, 67-year-old widower of Jacksonville, Fla. He was shot five times Dec. 12, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Fort Statesburg. He does not have any known family connection in America.

Another liberated colored man is Littleton Chatman, a man of 33 years who was here first with the Ninth Cavalry. He returned in 1924 and married a Filipino. He is now a widower with two adopted children. He hails from Mobile, Ala., and claims three sisters and one brother in that city.

Dr. Robert T. Brown, who came here from New York with a Ph.D. degree, is a man of obvious distinction. Coming out of Sam Houston College, he did post-graduate work at the College of the City of New York. With the Army in New York, he came here as a junior administrative assistant, heading the Manila Purchasing Division. For fifteen years he handled all manner of Army supplies and lectured at various colleges. He also wrote a book. He has a son in the U. S. Army.

LIVED NEAR PRISON

Samuel McEntee, 67, came here with the Twenty-fourth, and later retired, living for twenty-five years in Los Banos within sight of the prison where he was interned. A native of Rome, Ga., he is married to a Filipino. They have three children.

Andy Jones, another liberated prisoner, came from San Francisco in 1928 as a messman on a merchant ship. When the ship was sold from under him, he started working as a special policeman in a Manila Hotel. When interned in January, 1942, he was a cook.

David B. Thompson of Galveston, Tex., arrived in December, 1941, as a baker on the SS President Grant. He was left ashore while on leave when the ship departed during a bombing attack. Fifty-six other crew members were

left behind. Thompson has an aunt in Galveston. William A. Caldwell of Houston, Tex., has been here twenty-five years. He has no known family connections in the States.

SHOEMAKER LIBERATED

Lloyd Porter of Atlanta, Ga., came here with the Ninth Cavalry in 1900. He was a shoemaker before the Japanese took over.

Robert Lee Thomas was among the younger internees. His memory of America is still vivid. He has a sister, Georgiana, residing in New York City. At the outbreak of the war he was serving as a captain's steward on the SS President Grant. An ex-prize fighter, the enemy snatched him Jan. 4, 1942. He was among the few who didn't lose weight while in internment.

TENOR CAPTURED

Leslie C. Brown and his wife were among the best loved Americans during internment. Graduating from New England Conservatory of Music in 1941, he arrived here four days before the outbreak of the war to marry the daughter of the late Dr. William Birch. Married Dec. 16 of the same year, he was taken by the enemy Jan. 10, 1942. His wife was interned August, 1943. Mr. Brown's story was one of great courage. For eighteen months he fought infantile paralysis and survived a major gall bladder operation. A lyric tenor, he entertained internees with stirring songs. A boy was born to the Browns last January and was seven weeks old on liberation day. Mr. Brown has a sister, Mrs. Ella Kenney, in Los Angeles. His wife's relatives are in Manila.

Randall Wright came from Philadelphia. A former United States civilian U. S. Army employee, he was interned with his wife, who later escaped with guerrillas, and is believed safe.

Negro Captain, Jap Prisoner, Loses 112 Lbs.

By E. F. JOSEPH

OAKLAND, Calif. (ANP)—Capt. Chester Sanders, the first colored prisoner of war to arrive in San Francisco from the Philippine Islands, is now recuperating at the Letterman General hospital after his rescue by Gen. MacArthur's Rangers.

Sanders, who is 67, is one of the only two colored officers who went through the entire battle of Bataan. Over a period of three years, he was interned in three of the worst Japanese prison camps. When he was rescued, he weighed only 123 pounds, whereas he formerly weighed 235 pounds.

A soldier for more than 30 years, Sanders has held administrative positions with the quartermaster corps. He is a veteran of the Spanish American war, World War I, Mexico, Alaska, and the Philippine

uprisings on Leyte, Bataan and Corregidor.



RETURNED WAR PRISONER—Capt. Chester Sanders, 67, first Negro prisoner of war to arrive in San Francisco from the Philippine Islands. In the U. S. Army thirty years, he was liberated by General MacArthur's Rangers. He and his wife lived in Manila twenty-five years, and are former residents of Indianapolis.

Only 2 Negroes survived

To be brought here to the Birmingham General hospital to recover from illnesses resulting from his internment, Capt. Chester Sanders, a prisoner of the Japanese for three years and a veteran of Bataan, has arrived in San Francisco and is stationed at Letterman General hospital.

Down to 112 pounds from his normal 235; Capt. Sanders was held at three camps, O'Donnell, Cabanatuan and Bilibid Prison. His wife, whom he has not seen since 1941, was imprisoned in the Los

He has been awarded the Purple Heart, Croix de Guerre of France, by Section C, the all Negro unit of the Army Post Office here.

THREE-WAR-VETERAN

Sixty-seven years old, Capt. Sanders has held administrative positions with the Army Quartermaster Corps for more than 30 years and is a veteran of three wars. He was in the Spanish-American war, World War I, the Philippine Insurrection, the Moro campaign and the Philippine battles of this war.

He wears campaign ribbons for the Spanish-American war, Philippine Insurrection, American Defense, Asiatic Pacific, Liberation Philippine Islands and Pacific Southwest. He also wears the World War I Victory ribbon with four stars.

Last week, Capt. Sanders was

First Prisoners GIs Tell Of Suffering At Hands Of The Nazis

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.
By INSTANCE CURTIS

The first prisoners of war to be interviewed in this country following the official announcement of V-E Day include a group of Negro servicemen who have a story to tell of what life is like in a German prison camp.

These men, who are now visiting their families after having lived to see the downfall of the enemy they fought and were captured by, existed from 5 to 107 days under the Nazi rule as prisoners of war, starved and often cold, while their fellow soldiers fought steadily toward their liberation, which came on Good Friday.

These men marched from the train which brought them to Camp Kilmer, New Brunswick, N. J., and they talked of what they had seen.

It Was Rough There

As one of the men, S/Sgt. Albert DeByers, of 121 Kingston Ave., Brooklyn, said, "It was rough there. Really rough." All of the other men agreed wholeheartedly with this. Included in this group were T-5 James Terry, of Brooklyn; Cpl. Arthur Seward, Atlantic Highlands, N. J.; T-5 Raymond Abney, Hempstead, L. I.; S/Sgt. Eurel Cobb, Birmingham; Cpl. Sylvester Fisher, Peoria, Ill., and Pvt. Clifford Johnson, of Gainesville, Fla.

The men, following their arrival at Camp Kilmer, were told by the commanding officer, Major General Homer N. Groninger, that they would be given a 60-day leave. A roar of approval rose from the men, who sat close-packed in the auditorium, waiting to finish the processing and assignment to the camp nearest their homes. They knew that within 48 hours they would see their loved ones.

Life Was Hard

Life for these men has been hard. As Cpl. Sylvester Fisher said, "You didn't have time to think of girls or wife or mother in Zeigenheim, the camp where we were interned. All you could worry about was living, just getting by alive from day to day."

Living for these men, who are all members of the 233rd Artillery, a fighting unit with an average of more than two years of overseas duty, knew hardships before they were captured. According to S/Sgt. Alfred DeByers, it was harder, much harder living after the Germans had surrounded and captured them.

"We marched," he said, "through snow up to our knees, some of the fellows without their shoes, which the Germans had taken from them, to a camp called Bad Orb. A few

that the Germans had something to be desired as far as their treatment of different races was concerned. One of the soldiers said, "We saw the Jerries come in on the first day and take away all the American boys who were Jewish. We never saw those fellows again."

They Celebrate

Liberation for these men came on Good Friday, when the big guns and planes and soldiers had beaten back the Nazis in their own country. They were flown immediately to Le Havre, France, and from there to Camp Lucky Strike, where they remained until able to make the trip home.

Now they, along with the rest of us, are celebrating the complete destruction of Nazi power. They are at home again, after experiences and treatment which many men did not survive.

These men have lived to see the fall of Germany which they helped to bring about.

Yancey with Liberators

A few American
Los Banos Internees
Include 5 from East

ALL UNDERFED

Japs Fail at Effort
to Create Racial Rift

By FRANCIS YANCEY
AFRO War Correspondent with
U.S. Troops in the Philippines
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MAMATID, Luzon—(By Cable)—Long-dreamed-of freedom came Friday to more than twenty colored American internees here when a three-pronged air, water and land assault liberated more than 2,000 civilians from the Los Banos Jap civilian internee prison camp forty-five miles south of Manila.

This is being written as I sit on an ambulance running board at the landing beach. Our amtracks, loaded to the gunwales, crawl ashore to remove the wildly shouting, joyous liberated internees who, with their meager possessions, climb into the long line of waiting trucks and ambulances for the ride back through our lines to the evacuation hospital.

Guerillas Helped
Air-borne paratrooper units (white), combined with Filipino guerillas, stormed the camp as other water-borne units approached from the beach, ordering all internees to pack what they could carry and be ready to board the relief amtracks coming in from

Malnutrition General

Many internees were suffering from various malnutrition illnesses. Of our group, only two were litter cases. The remainder were able to make the return trip to the evacuation hospital unaided.

Colored prisoners, as in Santo Tomas, were offered better treatment by the Japs in exchange for co-operation in the anti-white campaign.

Robert Lee said, "I found it impossible to take more than my share of food when so many of my white countrymen, who had treated me as their equal, were hungry."

Diet and treatment were the same here as in Santo Tomas. All the internees held up well, and after a meal from the Army field mess, went up to the hospital where all were assigned barracks, awaiting return to the States or to their homes in Manila.

GIs Carry Stretcher Cases

Tan Yanks played an important role in the rescue. Six colored GIs attached to the 41st Evacuation Hospital, only colored unit on this operation, acting as litter bearers, tenderly carried the stretcher cases from returning ambulances into the hospital.

Sgt. Leroy Jordan of Pensacola, Fla., helped the doctors and medical mix blood plasma and set up apparatus for injections as they administered to the needs of ill internees.

Other litter bearers were Pvs. Wardell Figgs, 23 Wellington Place, Rockwell Center, NYC; Arthur Fanning, 289 West 142nd Street, NYC; Aaron Wilson, Lancaster, S.C.; Willie Covington, Clarksdale, Miss.; Lorenzo Douthard, Covington, Ga., and Willie Covington, Bilox, Miss.

300,000 HANDICAPPED WORKERS PLACED BY WMC

Nearly 300,000 handicapped workers of all races were placed under WMC's new program in 1944.

560-1945

New Orleans Lt.

Liberated From

*New Orleans, La.
German Prison
Liberated*

—First Lieutenant George W. Mitchell, husband of Mrs. Thelma Mitchell, 3446 Magnolia Street, New Orleans, La., has been liberated from a German prison camp where he had been held since his capture last January 25.

Lt. Mitchell was captured during fighting near Skillersdorf, Germany, during an attack by his unit, the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Before his capture Lt. Mitchell was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action at Climbach. *8-11-45*

A former student at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., he was inducted in January, 1942, and has served overseas since August 10, 1944.

(Editor's Note: Lt. Mitchell is presently in the U. S. in a Army Hospital convalescing from wounds sustained in the frontline fighting.)

Last-Minute Rescue By Paratroopers And Guerillas Saves Prisoners of Japs

Only the last-minute rescue by United States paratroopers and Philippine guerillas saved the prisoners in Japanese hands at Santo Tomas and Los Banos camp on the morning of February 23, according to Robert T. Browne, famous mathematician, author and philosopher, who arrived in the United States several weeks ago. In an interview with The Amster-dam News this week, Mr. Browne said he was one of about 7,000 prisoners of war in the Philippines in the Japanese prison camp at Santo Tomas and Los Banos, from January 6, 1942 to February 23, 1945, and that:

Scientific Starvation
"It was the settled opinion of all the internees that the Japanese pursued a policy of systematic and scientific starvation; that the prisoners were subjected to many indignities, humiliations and brutal mis-handling; that in my own case I weighed 212 pounds at the outbreak of the war with Japan and when released I had seen myself disappear to a mere 120 pounds. Many of the internees died from starvation and malnutrition."

Mr. Browne spent 12 years in the Philippines, three as a prisoner of war, and nine as a staff member of the procurement division of the U. S. Army. The diet, he said, was corn meal mush in the morning; a plate of rice sometimes with pot-licker and greens made from potato

tops, in the afternoon at 4:30. In 1943 some Red Cross packages and clothing arrived, but many of the packages were found to have been rifled by the Japanese. Some of the prisoners saved some of the things in their packages until 1945, for a "rainy day." But conditions grew from bad to worse. The meagre rations, never at any time adequate, were gradually reduced by the Japanese from the time they began to suffer defeat at the hands of the United States forces. *8-18-45*

Their Darkest Hour

This condition of affairs, continued, Mr. Browne declared, until February 22, when the Japanese authorities told the Internee Executive Committee that no more rations would be furnished; that their army was starving; that the United States Army and the people of the Philippines were starving, and that we would have to make out the best way we could.

"This was the darkest hour of the entire period of our internment. We had reached the depths of desolation. But forces were at work of which we knew nothing because the Japanese did not allow any news of the outside world to come to us," he asserted.

"On the morning of February 23, at about 6:45 o'clock, much to our surprise and unbounded joy, we saw the paratroopers in the skies below our camp coming to effect our rescue. They were quickly joined on the north of the camp by the

guerrilla fighters on the day when the Japanese had planned to massacre the prisoners at Santo Tomas and Los Banos prison camps. *8-18-45*

"It was, in my opinion, one of the most remarkable exploits to rescue prisoners of war in military history. No wonder General MacArthur said 'God was certainly with us today,' Mr. Browne declared *8-18-45*

Japs Wiped Out
In the battle between the paratroopers and guerillas and the Japanese guards, which lasted for an hour, 187 Jap soldiers and 50 of their guards were wiped out, but not a single paratrooper or guerilla lost his life. It was on that fateful day of our rescue that, according to the guerillas, the entire camp was slated for execution at roll call, 7 a. m. and 6 p. m. Japanese machine guns had been placed on the hills overlooking the camp ready to blow us to bits, but General MacArthur had been informed

Repatriates

*New York (N.Y.)
Condemns Japs
Amster-dam News*



ROBERT T. BROWNE, famous mathematician, philosopher and author, was a prisoner of the Japs for three years. Mr. Browne and others were miraculously rescued by paratroopers and guerilla fighters on the day when the Japanese had planned to massacre the prisoners at

ental Philosophy and Esoteric Christianity as part of the work of the university carried on by the internee organization.

He also lectured under the auspices of the religious department on Mohammed, Zoroaster, Buddha, the mystery of space and the newer physics.



Fort Sam Houston, Texas—PVT. WILLIE DOWNS, first Dallas Negro to be reported a prisoner of war of the Germans in the European campaign, is processing at the Army Ground and Service Forces Redistribution Station at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Pvt. Downs was liberated from the German prison by the Russians.—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo—(See story this issue) *10-27-45*

Germany's Bombed-Flat Areas Are 'Beautiful'

Two Repatriated Soldiers Saw Much of the Reich From Trains

By TOM O'CONNOR

Two New York boys, just repatriated on the Gripsholm, yesterday agreed that Germany is a beautiful country.

"Where our bombers have been," said S/Sgt. Wallace Kirschner, 22, of 2446 Creston Ave., Bronx, a gunner shot down over Germany on his 25th bombing mission. "it's really beautiful."

"I saw a lot of Germany from trains between prison camps," agreed Lt. Raymond Newmark, 24, whose mother is a nurse at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, "and it's bombed flat. Duesseldorf, Cologne, Essen, Coblenz, all the cities in the Ruhr, are in ruins. Seeing it, you felt 'that's a job well done.'"

Newmark and Kirschner were among the 463 wounded U. S. Army men just returned from German prison camps by diplomatic exchange, on the Swedish liner Gripsholm. They are at Halloran General Hospital on Staten Island temporarily, until assigned to a hospital of definitive treatment.

Cheerful

Kirschner, frightfully burned about the head and hands when flak hit the bomb bay of his B-17 while it was still carrying 240 incendiary bombs, has about a year of plastic surgery ahead of him. Newmark, who got a 20 mm. shell through his left arm from a Messerschmitt fighter, is in for a series of bone-grafting operations.

Curiously enough, neither suffered any discriminatory treatment because of being Jewish, although each had some of what Kirschner called "sass" from ardent young Nazis. The ones who had been in the last war, or those who had spent a lot of time at the front in this war, were decent enough to the prisoners; it was only the youngsters who had been filled with Nazi propaganda from childhood, and hadn't had a chance yet to get it knocked out of them at the front, who gave them much trouble.

"Many German soldiers told me," said Newmark, who learned to speak German at DeWitt Clinton High in New York and at Pleasantville High, in Westchester, "that they were only too sorry the Nazi Party prosecuted the Jews in Germany. I heard that from both officers and men."

The Important Thing

Kirschner, an inspector of elec-

trical equipment before he went into the army in 1942, had a double thrill yesterday at Halloran. He was one of 11 Gripsholm repatriates presented with medals in ceremonies in the hospital auditorium (he got the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal), and he was reunited with his mother, father and sweetheart.

The girl, Irene Goldstein, 2224 Valentine Ave., Bronx, a medical stenographer at Mt. Sinai Hospital, was dancing with joy, hugging and kissing the soldier and paying no heed to the fact that his face was no longer the one she remembered. "He's just the same Wally," she said, "he hasn't changed a bit. We knew he was burned, and to tell the truth it isn't as bad as we expected."

"He's back in the States," chimed in his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Kirschner, "and he's alive. That's the important thing."

Kirschner said he and Irene would be married as soon as he was out of the hospital.

"What do you want to do now?" a reporter asked him.

He laughed. "Get better," he said. And then added: "All I want is just to have a decent job and an average home and raise a family."

Kirschner's plane was hit on April 11, 1944, over the target. The bomb bay doors had stuck, and there was a full load of incendiaries aboard when the flak found its mark.

"I had my chute on already. I ripped off my mask and helmet. I wasn't in the plane more than 10 or 20 seconds after we were hit, but I remember I saw my hand was burned. I passed out just before I hit the ground, and woke up 19 days later in a German prison hospital."

Newmark, a bombardier, was knocked down after a successful mission over Berlin. The plane was within half an hour of the base in England when a squadron of fighters appeared. The men thought

they were P-51s, sighed with relief, took off their masks and started eating candy, congratulating themselves on a safe return. Then the ships began peeling off to attack. They were Messerschmitts.

No Jim Crow

"I was knocked back into my navigator's lap," he said. "I owe my life to him. He adjusted my parachute and tipped me on the shoulder and I jumped."

The only Negro among the 463 Yank soldiers returning on the Gripsholm was Pfc. Morris Carter, 24, a soft-spoken farm boy from near Starkville, Miss. He was out on night patrol in Northern Italy, ran into a lot of Germans, got a leg blown off. He tied the stump tight with a tent rope and next day was picked up by the Germans and taken to a hospital in Northern Italy.

Carter, a member of the 92d Division, a segregated Negro outfit, was not Jim-Crowed by the Nazis. He was treated, he said, just like any other American soldier, and nobody even tried to tell him about the superiority of white Aryans.

Most of the 548 civilians who returned on the ship still were on it last night, although it docked Wednesday morning. Twenty-four hours after docking, only 20 civilians had left the ship. Most of the remainder are Polish, Greek, Czechoslovakian or Dutch by birth, with only technical ties in America. There were numerous reports that many of them were suspected of being disloyal to this country, and selected by the Germans for repatriation for sinister reasons. The Germans have the right to choose which Americans they send back from Europe.

Pilot Liberated by South Africans

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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332ND FIGHTER GROUP BASE, Italy. (By Cable) — Lt. Hugh White, a member of Colonel Davis's pioneer fighter unit, is coming home, but he had to do it the hard way.

White, who lives in St. Louis, returned to his home base afterground by day and travel every being down and spending eightnight for five days with very hectic days of semi-starvation to eat, he watched American cheating death as his own planes

bombed and strafed his captors who were retreating before our advancing troops.

Liberated by combined partisan and South African troops during a push into the town his captors had withdrawn to, White, once again back with his fellow pilots, gave me the following account of his narrowing sojourn behind enemy lines.

Experience Recounted

White said:

"As long as I live, there will be but three real moments of sheer joy that I can associate with my our of duty in this theatre of operations. The first came when I found myself clear of my burning ship."

"Second was my rescue from the Nazis by a mixed unit of the South African Sixth Armoured Division as it blasted its way into the village where I was held captive."

"Colored and white South Africans were driving and fighting side by side as their half-tracks, tanks and jeeps cleared out my guards. Last but not least was my return to my squadron to find orders ready for my return to the States."

Forced to Bail Out

Flying his 35th combat mission over enemy held Ferrara in Northeast Italy, White and his flight were looking for retreating Nazi supply convoys to strafe when his plane was hit by intense anti-aircraft and small arms fire.

One burst of flak hit the plane, setting the engine afire. Taking one look at the flames billowing from his engine, White decided, "it was exit time."

Rolling his plane over on its back he "hit the silk," touching the ground 50 feet from the debris of his crashed plane only to run into a swarm of Germans who had seen him and his plane falling.

Scrambling into a nearby farmhouse he ran upstairs and first hid under a bed. As the Germans searched the rooms, he ducked into a closet where he was caught.

White, roughly manhandled by captors was beaten with gun butts, had his lip split, was kicked to the ground and finally stripped of all flying equipment, dog tags and identification credentials at headquarters where he was interrogated by an English-speaking officer.

His captors, he said, refused to believe he, a colored man, was a first lieutenant and a pilot in the U.S. Army and at no time recognized his rank.

Strafed by Own Outfit

Forced to sleep on wet cold ground by day and travel every plane as they bombed and strafed

every place they stopped. Once they were strafed by fellow 322nd pilots.

Friendly Italians sneaked him black bread, water and smokes, telling him that Allied forces were but five miles away.

When the partisans and South Africans stormed the village, the Germans fled, with White's three guards giving him their guns and surrendering to him. Turning his prisoners over to the partisans, White was taken to an advance airbase and then flown back to wing headquarters.



Philippine Courier
WAR PRISONER RETURNS — Mrs. Edith Loving, interned three years by the Japanese in the Philippines, as she arrived in San Francisco. She was wearing Army-issued clothes. Her husband, Col. Walter H. Loving, director of the Philippine Constabulary Band, was killed by the Japanese. Mrs. Loving is en route to Fort Benning, Ga., to see her son receive his commission. — Joseph Photo. 6-16-45

Missing Airman Among Liberated Prisoners; Husband Of Orleanian

New York Port of Embarkation, Camp Shanks, N. Y., June 6.—Lt. Walker L. McCreary of San Antonio, Tex., is one of the four returning Mustang fighter pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group, who had been captured by the Nazis and held prisoner until liberated by the victorious Allied armies. Lt. McCreary is one among the 2,675 American soldiers who arrived here on May 29, according to announcement made by the War Department.

Lt. McCreary is the husband of the former Miss Elaine Rawls who resides at 2317 Second Street, New Orleans, La. He went overseas in January, 1944, and was attached to the 100th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group. He flew ninety patrol and strafing missions over Italy, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Rumania, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary and France.

On McCreary's 90th mission on October 12, 1944, flak disabled his plane over Hungary and he bailed out at 7,000 feet west of Lake Balaton. He landed uninjured, but a mob of civilians which gathered about struck and reviled him. As the Germans retreated before the indomitable Soviet armies, he was forced to march through the bitterest weather winter. He re-



FREED, IMPRISONED—Beatrice E. Griffin, 811 17th Avenue, South, has received word that her son, Lt. William E. Griffin (left, above), who had been missing since his 23rd mission, is now safe, after a year of imprisonment in Germany. Lt. Griffin was the first Negro flier from Birmingham to see combat duty. Pvt. James F. Gordon (right), is the son of James F. Gordon, 361 Beale Avenue, who has received word that he has been missing in action since April 5. Pvt. Gordon, who was stationed in Italy, has been in the Army 23 months and overseas seven months. He has two brothers in service.



ENSLEY MAN FREED—T-4 Earlie Gibson (above) has been liberated from a German prison of war, his mother, of 1008 20th Place, Ensley, has been informed. T-4 Gibson was listed among other Alabamians on a report

from the War Department issued through the OWI.

Survivors Of "Do Or Die" Rear Guard Brought Home

NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION, CAMP SHANKS, New York—Veteran of 172 days of continuous front-line action, and survivor of a desperate rear guard whose orders were to stand or die, Sergeant Joseph W. Hawkins, of 72 Mill Road, Hempstead, Long Island, recently passed through Camp Shanks with a group of liberated American prisoners.

From the Omaha beachhead in France, his outfit, the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion of the First Army, was in every action up to and including the Belgian Bulge. It was in Belgium as a member of a 155-mm howitzer battery that Sergeant Hawkins came face to face with the full fury of Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's desperate Panzer hordes.

He was left behind with a small holding force to cover the hurried withdrawal of his battalion with only small arms and a few hastily placed mines to block the enemy's advance. After holding out for considerable time, the little group was overwhelmed by sheer weight of numbers early on the morning of December 17, 1944, near the fortified town of Sharenburg, on the Siegfried line.

In sub-zero weather, while suffering from exposure and the pain of broken fingers and bruised hands, he was imprisoned at Bonn. Nine days and three skimpy meals later he was moved to Hamleburg, still without medical attention and under constant strafing by raiding allied planes.

German civilians reviled, spat and threw stones at him and the group he was with. Men froze and died from the cold. Frost bite was common.

A daring spearhead of the 4th Armored Division, smashing through at 60 miles behind the German lines to Hamleburg, liberated Sergeant Hawkins and his buddies. For 15 brief hours they were free before the fiercely pursuing and counterattacking Nazis were able to disperse and nearly annihilate the rescue column.

Fought Jerries
N.Y. Amsterdam News



FIRST LIEUT. STARLING B. PENN, recently returned from Germany, where he had been a prisoner of war since July 1944, when his plane was shot down over Linz, Austria. He escaped with slight injuries. Lt. Penn was flying with the 332nd Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., stationed in Italy with the 15th Air Force. He, the holder of the air medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and the Purple Heart, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Penn, 211J West 151st Street and the brother of Mrs. Erlene Penn Dash, dietitian at Lincoln Hospital.

Hero Found
Pittsburgh Courier
No Jim Crow
In Nazi Camp

By JAMES E. SMITH
(New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—Living proof that Negro soldiers are giving life and limb in this world struggle for democracy is given by 24-year-old Pfc. Morris Carter of Starkville, Miss. Pfc. Carter, the only Negro

service man to be repatriated from Germany aboard the Swedish Exchange liner Gripsholm, which docked last week at Jersey City, returned in high spirits but without his right leg.

The young soldier, a member of the all-Negro 92nd Infantry Division, now fighting on the Italian front, was with the first combat team to be thrown against the Germans from the 92nd.

ALL PRISONERS TREATED SAME

The young hero said it is true that he is happy to be home but he had not fared badly and he had not been discriminated against in any manner during the time he was a German prisoner. He also stated he had heard nothing concerning the supposed Aryan supremacy and that he had been treated by his captors just as any of the white soldiers had.

The Mississippian said he had been wounded while on a night patrol with 20 other men from his outfit last September 17 when they "ran into a whole lot of Jerries."

"We didn't even have time to get out of the troop carrier in which we were riding before they opened up on us," he asserted. "A couple of the boys were hit while still trying to get out and I hadn't gone very far when a bullet tore my leg completely up."

"I'm not sure," he explained, "but I think my platoon sergeant (Sgt. Fred Rhodes of Baton Rouge, La.) got the Jerry who plugged me."

Carter believes the only thing that kept him from bleeding to death was a tent guy rope which he carried with him. He tied it around the upper part of his shattered leg as a tourniquet to check the flow of blood.

"I was hit about 11 o'clock that night," he stated, "and I lay where I fell until about ten the next morning. After I was hit I tried to yell for help but so much firing was going on around us that nobody could hear me."

He said a buddy was lying not more than 25 feet from him but he was dead. His name was Norman A. Gray and came from somewhere in Maryland. "The next morning the Germans came around to look things over, and when they saw me they booted me in the side to see if I was alive. Then I was picked up and loaded on a jeep."

SEGREGATED IN CAMP

He said it seemed a year before they reached a field hospital where he received the first medical care after he had been hit. His leg had been hanging by a small piece of skin up to this time. It was immediately amputated just below the knee.

He remained in the hospital in Northern Italy for a month and from there he was taken to Reslaff Friersing in Germany where he remained from October 31, 1944 until Jan. 22, 1945.

Here he was the only Negro in the hospital and was treated as any other patient during his stay. It was not until he came aboard the liner Gripsholm did he see another Negro. He occupied a cabin with them, a wounded Negro Canadian soldier and a Negro civilian. The soldier was Guy M. Francis of Toronto and the civilian was Oscar Lee Mathis of Way Cross, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones Carter and has been married six years to his wife, Lauretha, all of Starkville. He owns a small 20-acre farm outside his home town but does not think he will want to live in Mississippi after what he has been through.

560-1945

3 More Prisoners AFRO - AMERICAN Are Liberated

Men Were Shot Down
Over Poland

SEVEN PROMOTED

Nazi Gorilla Posters

Found in Austria

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with
332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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RIMINI, Italy—Back to 332nd
Headquarters after a flying trip
over Austria, I found the entire
personnel hard at work in train-
ing programs.

Three Pilots Liberated

Pilots of the 332nd Fighter
Group reported in this dispatch
as liberated from German pris-
on camps are:

2nd Lt. James L. Hall, Wash-
ington

F/O Leon W. Spears, Pueblo,
Col.

F/O James T. Mitchell, Gads-
den, Ala.

With the war's end and no com-
bat missions, the group is busy
checking personnel records and
equipment for an early return to
the States. Everyone is happily
looking forward to big celebra-
tion since it is now known that
the group will be back in the
States before early fall.

Group's Big Question

The big question here now is,
where will the group be based
for transition on arrival in the
States—everyone from the com-
mand down to the lowest pfc.
doesn't want to run into same
deal that befell the bomber
group.

General opinion here is, "We
have been through too much over
here to stand for the same type
treatment the bomber group re-
ceived."

The pilots were overjoyed to
learn that Captain Armours Mc-
Daniels has been reported safe.

Other pilots formerly listed as
missing in action now liberated
from German prison camps of
war and awaiting return to the
States are:

Lived with Russians

Second Lt. James L. Hall, 733
Fairmont St., N.W., Washington,
D.C.; F/O Leon W. Spears, Pueb-
lo, Colo.; and F/O James T.
Mitchell, Gadsden, Ala.

These pilots were forced down

behind the lines in Poland and
lived with Russian troops until
V-E Day. Shortly after that, they
were flown back to wing head-
quarters.

The first question of a repatri-
ated white pilot who arrived in
Italy recently from an Austrian
PW camp was: "What is the
name of the fighter group that
flew red-tailed P-5's?"

Redtail Day

He then told a story about
some prison guards, typical with-
less Nazis, who were preparing to
go back to Berlin by train for a
week-end celebration.

He said their train had gone
no more than a mile from the
camp when prisoners saw a flight
of redtail P-5's dive on the train,
strafe it end to end, blowing up
the locomotive and killing more
than 60% of the jerry passengers.
The trip had to be cancelled.

When the rest of the prisoners
heard the news, he said, they de-
clared a holiday and called it
"Redtail Day."

While sightseeing in the streets
of Linz, Austria, I ran into some
of the most vicious pieces of
Nazi anti-colored propaganda I
had ever seen.

Propaganda Cartoons

Posted upon a building wall
was a 4 by 5 foot cartoon-type
poster depicting a savage apelike
black pilot, with his tongue
hanging out from between foam-
flecked lips, leaning out of the
cockpit of his plant which was
painted with U.S. Air Force in-
signias. Also shown was a 332nd
Redtail dropping large bombs on
fleeing civilians and in the back-
ground a hospital was seen burn-
ing from a bomb hit.

Winking at our Army's non-fra-
ternizing rule, I questioned an
Austrian about these posters and
was told that this was common
all over Austria.

Germany civilians had been
told they could expect no mercy



MISSING, LIBERATED—Jessie
Porter, Aliceville, has received
word that her son, Pfc. T. L.
Porter (left, above), is missing
in action. Pfc. Julian McMeans
(right) is back in military control
after being missing in action
since April 19, his mother, Pearl
McMeans, of Chapman, has been
informed.

Repatriates

Two Pilots, Two 92nd GI's AFRO - AMERICAN Freed from POW Camps

REIMS, France—Two pilots of
the 332nd Fighter Group and two
enlisted members of the 92nd In-
fantry Division were among per-
sonnel released from the Nazi
prisoner of war camp at Moose-
berg, Germany, recently, the War
Department announced on June 4.

They were:
Capt. Armour McDaniel, Mar-
tinsville, Va.

2nd Lt. Lloyd S. Hatchcock,
Dayton, Ohio.

Pfc. Raymond White, Kennett
Square, Pa.

Pfc. Maceo Collins, Cleveland.

Captain McDaniel, commander
of the 301st Fighter Squadron, and
a veteran of 69 missions over ene-
my lines, was shot down over Ber-
lin on March 24, by a German jet-
fighter while escorting bombers
over the German capital.

Credited with shooting down
one ME-109 and destroying six
planes on the ground, he has been
awarded the Distinguished Flying
Cross and the Air Medal with five
Oak Leaf Clusters.

Broke Ankle Dodging Bullets

Lieutenant Hatchcock was cap-
tured in May, 1944, when forced
down behind enemy lines north of
Rome while engaged in ferrying
P-47 Thunderbolts to a new base.

He was interned in Nazi POW
camps in Italy and Germany. At
one time he suffered a broken
ankle when forced to jump from
a moving truck to avoid a straf-
ing Allied plane.

A mortar man with the Fifth
Army, Pfc. White, who arrived
overseas in April, 1944, was cap-
tured on Dec. 29, near Lugar,
Italy. He was liberated by Third
Army tanks one week before the
cessation of hostilities.

A rifleman in Company L of the
370th Infantry Regiment, Collins
and the rest of his platoon had
been ordered to take the last big

mountain before the Po River
Valley on the Italian front.

During the bitter fighting be-
tween the Germans, who were of-
ten well concealed in mountain caves,
and the Americans, Collins was
wounded by the concussion of an
exploding hand grenade and cap-
tured by a German scouting party.

Now awaiting their return to

the States, the two 92nd members
are receiving new clothing and un-
dergoing medical examinations
and necessary administrative pro-

cessing at Normandy Base Section
Recovered Allied Military Person-
nel Camp No. 1.

99th Pilot Home After AFRO - AMERICAN 7 Months in Prison Camp

It's great! Sixty days at home
with the family after those lone-
some days in prison camp. Yea,
it's great!"

That is the way Lt. Wilbur F.
Long of the 99th Fighter Squad-
ron, excitedly explained his joy of
being alive and back with his par-
ents Monday in a phone interview
from his New Rochelle, N.Y.,
home.

Lt. Long's P-51 Mustang was
shot form under him last Sept. 13
during an escort mission to Bal-
chammer, Germany, and he spent

seven and a half months in Ger-
man prison camps. He was at
Moosburg and later transferred to
Stalag 7A, from which he was lib-
erated April 29.

"The toughest part of the whole
experience," Long declared, "was
getting sufficient food. Those Red
Cross food boxes really saved us.
Otherwise we had potatoes, cab-
bage, turnips, and more potatoes,
cabbage and turnips."

Lost 15 Pounds

Lt. Long said he lost 15 pounds
during confinement, but has re-
gained all of it since liberation.

He is resting with his parents, the
Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence M.
Long of New Rochelle, and plans
to visit St. Louis before reporting
to the Air Force Redistribution
Center in Atlantic City at the con-
clusion of his 60-day leave which
began June 7.

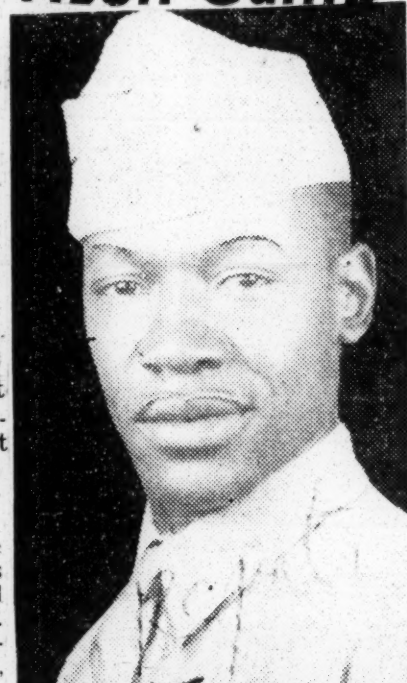
Though tired and battle weary,
Lt. Long's first thoughts were
about the welfare of a fellow pilot,
Flight Officer Leonard R. Willette

of Belleville, N.J., who was re-
ported missing in action. The
AFRO had no good news about
F/O Willette.

On 14th Mission

Lt. Long, who has been awarded
the Air Medal besides three battle
stars, was shot down on his four-
teenth mission. After liberation,
he was flown to France, and re-
turned to the States by troopship
after spending ten days in
Trinidad.

He is the brother of Clarence
Long, former copy editor on the
AFRO staff.



PRISONER FREED—Sgt. Clevel-
and Parmer, whose mother re-
sides in Pigeon Creek, has been
freed from a German prison of
war, according to an OWI report
from the War Department. Sgt.
Parmer had been missing since
October, 1942, and went over-
seas in July, 1944.

FREED PILOT TELLS HOW PRISONERS LICKED THE SIDES OF GARBAGE CANS

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent

MOOSBURG, Germany — (Via Air Mail)—“If you want to see

human nature at its worst, just get a couple of thousand dissatisfied men together at Moosburg,”



Vincent Tubbs

Lieut. Kenneth Williams of Los Angeles, ex-PW who was knocked down while flying with the 332nd Fighter Group, commented in answer to my query about life in German prison camps before victory.

His description of the filth, privation, cold and bugs of Stalag 7A was so vivid I have stopped at the now evacuated pest hole to see the place where men were held 300 to a building without bathing for two months.

Stalag 7A is bad, but the infamous concentration camp at Dachau, just 20 kilometers away (which I described in a recent story) minimizes its effects on the visitor who has seen Dachau and its crematoriums and who didn't have to live at Moosburg as a POW.

No Water for Bathing

Still Stalag 7A is bad. It must have been hell to survive there on a diet of black bread, margarine and soup, with no water for bathing, unclothed men ill with dysentery, overflowing latrines and every man dissatisfied and grouchy.

Lieut. Williams, now en route home from Paris, said the only bath he had at Moosburg was when he went through the “delousing chamber” at the camp's en-



trance. He and dozens of others were undressed, stood against a wall and water thrown on them from a fire hose. Their clothes were put through steam heated tumblers, but not washed.

Atrocity March—60 Miles

This was after the 100-kilometer (about 60 miles) “atrocity march”

from Nurnburg through snow and weather 15 degrees below zero which took the trudging column sixteen days (December 31 to January 16.)

Despite the hardships of the march, Lieut. Williams said ninety per cent of the prisoners survived while his greatest personal discomfort was the cold.

2½ Days Without Food

On the first day of the trek, he found it impossible to use his numbed hands to open a can of food from the ARC parcel given each man to last him for the duration of the journey. He didn't eat for 36 hours.

160-Mile Atrocity March

This was the second of “atrocity marches” which he and 21 other 332nd flyers made as German prisoners. The first was a 250-kilometer trek from Frankfurt to Nurnburg as German military might crumbled before Allied onslaughts.

The first march, though in equally cold weather, was not so long. It took only five nights and the prisoners were permitted to trade soap and cigarettes to farmers for onions, potatoes and meat with which they supplemented their ARC parcels.

They were dressed in regular GI clothing issued by the Red Cross, overcoats and shoes that were still relatively new.

Field Marshal von Rundstedt's fanatical effort to smash through to Paris had petered out, the bulge was flattened, Goering's Luftwaffe was neutralized and General Patton Third Army tanks were on the rampage.

While prisoners of the Luftwaffe, the Allied airmen had been treated relatively well, Williams said, but they were now being turned over to the fleet-footed Wehrmacht and the state of disorganization inside Germany is indicated by a pitched battle fought by Germans themselves during the first march.

4 Prisoners Wounded

Somewhere along the snow-covered route, Volksturm hidden in a



wooded area opened fire on the column, apparently believing them to be advancing American troops,

and a sharp fire fight ensued between the Volksturm and Wehrmacht guards. Several of the Wehrmacht were killed and four prisoners wounded.

The second march might not have been so long except for the successfully belligerent manner of Col. Darr Alcar, 60-year-old commander of Allied PW's.

Described as “a remarkable man” by the liberated 332nd flyers, the colonel had the column move slowly—two or three kilometers a night—waiting for General Patton's breakthrough.

He had bullied and roughed the Nazi guards for weeks, telling them after one PW died of pneumonia: “The first American tank that come along I'm gonna call it and have you hanged.” The Nazis cringed and hopped about in obvious fear when he spoke.

Out to Get Jewish PW's

When Heinrich Himmler (to-night reported dead of self poisoning) took over the Luftwaffe there was rumor among PW's that he ordered all Allied flyers killed and there was actually an effort made to weed out the Jews in the camp.

Col. Alcar told the Nazi commandant everybody in here is a Jew and if you kill one you've got to kill all of us.” The Nazis for got the idea.

But the closer Allied troops came to smashing the Wehrmacht, the worse living conditions became for the PW's. Moved at one time in trains, the men were crammed into box cars fifty men to a car. There wasn't room enough to take a deep breath,” Lieut. Williams recalled.

PW's Tempers Short

“There were lots of arguments and a few little fights when one guy jostled another by moving his own arm. That was another time human nature was at its worst.”

During the movement each box car had only one guard and when I asked why the men didn't try to escape, Williams looked at me quizzically and asked “Where would you go?”

“If you got out, you didn't know anything about the country, you didn't know where you were and you stand out like a sore thumb in that snow. If you got very far you'd probably run into some of those crazy-as-hell SS troops. Some of the men tried it but they always came back. No food, no way to know where they were going. It wasn't any use.”

The youthful flyer (23) stated his crowd was the first to reach Moosburg which had formerly been a camp for enlisted men. “The Luftwaffe had nothing by now and there were only about 30 Luftwaffe guards with us—the rest were Wehrmacht.”

The disintegrating German army

was at its worst. All transportation formerly used to bring prisoners' provisions from neutral Switzerland was now pressed into use to cart along fleeing remnants of the army.

Garbage Used for Food

During one period food was so scarce, the prisoners picked potato peelings from garbage pails, scraped them with toothbrushes and fried them. Some even licked the sides of garbage pails.

“It isn't funny but when you



look back on it we must have been a mighty motley crowd. You can't imagine the heated arguments officers used to have over the division of a loaf of bread. A major, a captain and a flight officer would almost fight over a hunk the size of three fingers.”

When I asked how prisoners passed their time, Williams said he read more while a Luftwaffe prisoner than ever before in his life. There were books, fiction, detective stories and “heavy stuff” plus occasional magazines sent through the Red Cross.

But when moved to Stalag 7A it was different. Some of the men slept interminably but most spent the entire days trying to make contact with some weak guard, hustling to get an extra piece of bread or a cigarette.”

There were no amusements. The men made balls from rags and tried to play games. “Only trouble with this,” Williams said “was you didn't have energy to play long. We weren't getting enough food.”

24 Eat Piece of Bread

“If a guy managed to hustle something he had a hard time



with the men in his barracks. If you didn't make a good 24-way division of a tiny piece of bread all the wrath of everybody in your space was turned on you.”

However, Williams recalled some more pleasant days as a prisoner.

At Baleria, Germany, a Luftwaffe camp for British pilot PW's where he was the only colored among 100 Americans, he was “treated swell.”

The ingenious British had erected a stage from salvage lumber on which they presented plays. Costumes were rented from Germans in the city with the 20 or 30 marks paid them under the rulings of the Geneva Convention.

But even at Baleria the food was insufficient. For breakfast the PW's got two pieces of bread smeared with margarine and a cup of something called coffee by the Germans.

For lunch, a piece of German meat or cheese on crackers, plus a cup of watery, powdered milk. For dinner, potatoes, a piece of ARC meat, a hunk of bread and sometimes a spoon of dehydrated vegetables.

“The dinner was the only meal that ever made you feel comfortable,” Williams said. “Otherwise you were always hungry; yet never any such ravenous hunger as we experienced at Moosburg.”

One Toilet for 2400

Stalag 7A was bad. Even today with all prisoners gone, there is still the stench of the sweat of thousands of unbathed men. The walls of the green painted barracks are smeared inside with filth and one of the latrines that served 2400 is still there to tell the story of Nazi violation of human decency.

The barbed wire has been cut away from the high fences that were also electrically charged and the buildings stand deserted and ghostly against the smooth green heaths of German's well cultivated lands.

Military Government is about to burn the site as has been done at Belsen, Buchenwald and other filth-ridden camps, but nothing can ever burn the memories from the minds of the men who suffered here.

Starved and driven like beasts, they dropped in time to levels almost as low as their captors. They became examples of “human nature at its worst” and only a democratic army smashing every component of bestial Nazism brought them back to normalcy to live again among decent people.

Beside Lieut. Williams at Stalag 7A was Lieut. Lloyd S. Hathcock, Dayton, O., husband of Mrs. Marjorie Hathcock, 416 W. Nebraska Street., and a 1941 graduate of W. Va. State College.

Williams was attending UCLA when he volunteered for the Air Corps, and is the husband of Mrs. Alice Williams, 57 Orchestra Place, Detroit.

Others freed when the mixed infantry battalions of the 14th Armored Division, Third Army, overran Moosburg, are: Lieuts. Clarence M. Driver, Los Angeles; Richard Macon, Birmingham; Roger B. Gaitor, Seaside Heights, N.J.; Oronimo Morgan, Washington; Floyd Thompson, Loudon, W. Va.; Alexander Jefferson, Detroit; Robert Daniels, Corona, N.Y.; Walter McCleary, San Antonio; Joseph Lewis, Denver; William Griffin, Birmingham; F. N. Woods, Atlanta; F. N. Lewis, Lincoln, Nebraska; Sterling B. Penn, NYC; Newman Golden, Cincinnati; Capt. Lewis Smith, Los Angeles; and Arinour McDaniel, Martinsville, Va.

Other PW's Freed

What Vets' Organization Will Negro Ex-GI Join?

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By VETERANS' EDITOR

The recently organized American Negro Veterans Council is a new starter in the race of the veterans' organizations. The pack is now scamping to see which will be the first to snare the GI when he permanently dons the blue chalk stripe. This new group was started by Elmer Carter, a commissioner of the New York State Fair Employment Practices Committee. Membership will be open to any veteran without regard to race. The only requirement is that joining veterans subscribe to the organization principles. The calibre of the men associated with Mr. Carter guarantees that the American Negro Veterans Council will not be a "pie in the sky hustle." 11-10-45

WHAT ORGANIZATION WILL YOU JOIN?

The Council joins the more than 100 veteran groups of divergent stripes and motives that are already set up for business. Many of these organizations admit Negroes. A few, like AMVETS, are making positive bids for their membership. Some are honestly conceived and aim at a sound beneficence, not only for their members, but society at large. All are not good. The bad ones range all the way from the lunatic fringe to the fascist level. Many are being started by coldly calculating promoters who would use returning soldiers to foment class, racial and religious antagonisms.

Since nearly every GI is thinking seriously about what organization he should join, the Veterans' Editor would like to help in the ultimate decisions. We certainly will not advise joining any particular organization. That is like telling you veterans whom to marry. Too much responsibility is tied up with your decision. However, though we won't sell you on any specific organization, we would like to help you whittle out your own yardstick for use in dealing with the sellers who certainly will come along.

Georgia Veterans Pledge To Seek Democracy In Ga.

The Atlanta Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Atlanta, Dec. 12.—Several hundred veterans held a spirited mass meeting last week at Morehouse College and pledged themselves to follow a program of action designed to bring a "full share of the democracy" they fought for in the war.

—ligent and honorable means devised able to carry out these points of action throughout the state of Georgia by organization, the ballot, publicity, picketing, parades and boycott.

Sponsored by the Georgia Veterans League, Inc., speakers from the platform and floor called for political equality, fair treatment under the G. I. Bill of Rights, equal health, educational and school facilities, equal salaries and Negro police and firemen.

Acting chairman of the meeting, John Turner, a lieutenant and fighter pilot, declared: "We are determined to bring full democracy in every way into every crack and corner of the state that we love."

"Fourteen points" of action outlined by the group included:

1. A fair application of the G. I. Bill of Rights for all veterans: (a) On the job training for Negro veterans in technical and industrial establishments; (b) vocational and technical school training; (c) loans to Negro veterans without discrimination.

2. Negro veterans hospitalized in all veterans' facilities without discrimination.

3. Negro veterans employed in the Veterans Administration and all federal agencies on all levels: national, regional and local.

4. Negro veterans employed at their highest skills by all employers.

5. Full civil and political rights and protection for every person. The league will work for every Negro of age becoming a registered voter.

6. Negro policemen and firemen.

7. Equal school facilities for Negro children, including physical plants and equipment.

8. Equal pay for equal work in all occupations and professions.

9. Equal and adequate provisions in public health and hospital facilities.

10. Equal justice under the law.

11. Cooperation with and encouragement of business enterprises operated by Negroes.

12. Cooperation with organized labor.

13. Cooperation with other organizations and efforts that work for the general welfare of the community.

14. Employment of every intel-

Veterans Meet At Morehouse Today

Atlanta Daily World 11-18-45

Atlanta, Ga.

Veterans have scheduled a mass meeting for four o'clock P. M. today at Morehouse College to discuss problems of vital importance to them.

Every Negro ex-service man in the Atlanta area is asked to attend this important assembly sponsored by the Georgia Veterans League, Inc.

The League will present a program of action for veterans on the home front, designed to bring a full share of the democracy that they have been fighting for in the war.

Authorities will explain the rights and benefits that are due every veteran regardless of race and the men will be given information as to where and how to get these benefits.

The League, which is fast growing as a state organization of Negro veterans, has a platform, known as its "Fourteen Points of Action," that includes every veteran a registered voter, equal school facilities and equal salaries, equal health and recreational facilities, equal hospital provisions, technical and industrial training for Negroes, and equal justice under the law.

Relatives of discharged servicemen are asked to urge them to attend.

Justice And Equality Basis For Action

Fourteen Points
Main Grievances

Sought Cover

11-22-45

Several hundred local Negro veterans held a spirited mass meeting Sunday in the Morehouse College Chapel, and pledged themselves to follow a program of action designed to bring a "full share of the democracy they fought for in the war!"

Sponsored by the fast growing Georgia Veterans League, Inc., speakers from the platform and

a committee of veterans to work in the various sections of the city of Atlanta. These included: Messrs. B. Scott, John L. Atkinson, Theodore Richardson, John Williams, George Barksdale, Roy Reese, Robt L. Robins, Sidney Matthews, Taft Taylor, Maurice Barksdale, Horace Reed, Adolphus Allen, Horace Tory, Robert Gadsden, Aquilla Eberhardt, Morris Carruthers, Bolton, Lindsey Lisbon, Randolph, Billups, Wilson and Griggs.

The second city-wide mass meeting of veterans will be held next Sunday in Sale Hall Chapel of Morehouse College at 4 o'clock p. m. All veterans are invited to attend this meeting.

The League's "Fourteen Points" of action are:

11-22-45

FOURTEEN POINTS OF ACTION

Georgia Veterans League, Inc.

1. A fair application of the G. I. Bill of Rights for all veterans.

(a) On-the-job training for Negro veterans in technical and industrial establishments.

(b) Vocational and technical school training.

(c) Loans to Negro veterans without discrimination.

2. Negro veterans hospitalized in all veterans' facilities without discrimination.

3. Negro veterans employed in the Veterans Administration and all Federal agencies on all levels; national, regional, and local.

4. Negro veterans employed at their highest skills by all employers.

5. Full civil and political rights and protection for every person.

(a) The League will work for every Negro of age becoming a registered voter.

6. Negro policemen and firemen.

7. Equal school facilities for Negro children, including physical plants and equipment.

8. Equal pay for equal work in all occupations and professions.

10. Equal and adequate provisions in public health and hospital facilities.

11. Equal justice under the law.

12. Cooperation with and encouragement of business enterprises operated by Negroes.

13. Cooperation with organized labor.

14. Cooperation with other organizations and efforts that work for the general welfare of the community.

11-22-45

COMMITTEE NAMED

Charles R. Milton, State Commander of the League was introduced to the new veterans and invited them to "throw their energies in with the League! He appointed

The Georgia Veterans League intends to employ every intelligent and honorable means devisable to carry out these points of action throughout the State of Georgia.

300 MAKE PLEDGE TO CAUSE AT MOREHOUSE

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Several hundred veterans held a spirited mass meeting last week at Morehouse College and pledged themselves to follow a program of action designed to bring a "full share of the democracy" they fought for in the war.

Sponsored by the Georgia Veterans League, Inc., speakers from the platform and floor called for political equality, fair treatment under the GI Bill of Rights, equal health, educational and school facilities, equal salaries and Negro police and firemen.

Acting chairman of the meeting, John Turner, a lieutenant and fighter pilot, declared: "We are determined to bring full democracy in every way into every crack and corner of the State that we love."

FOURTEEN-POINT PROGRAM

"Fourteen points of action" outlined by the group included:

1. A fair application of the GI Bill of Rights for all veterans;

(a) On-the-job training for Negro veterans in technical and industrial establishments;

(b) Vocational and technical school training;

(c) Loans to Negro veterans without discrimination.

2. Negro veterans hospitalized in all veterans' facilities without discrimination;

3. Negro veterans employed in the Veterans' administration and all Federal agencies on all levels; national, regional and local;

4. Negro veterans employed at their highest skills by all employers;

5. Full civil and political rights and protection for every person;

(a) The league will work for every Negro of age becoming a registered voter.

WANT POLICE

6. Negro policemen and firemen;

7. Equal school facilities for Negro children, including physical plants and equipment;

8. Equal pay for equal work in all occupations and professions;

9. Equal and adequate provisions in public health and hospital facilities;

10. Equal justice under the law;

11. Cooperation with and encouragement of business enterprises operated by Negroes;

12. Cooperation with organized labor;

13. Cooperation with other organizations and efforts that work for the general welfare of the community;

14. Employment of every intelligent and honorable means devisable to carry out these points of action throughout the

State of Georgia by organization, the ballot, publicity, picketing, parades and boycott.

Negro Vets Meet in Georgia

Daily Worker Demand Equal Rights

new York, N. Y.

ATLANTA, Dec. 12.—The fight state of Georgia by organization, to vote and the right to jobs the ballot, publicly, picketing, without discrimination, were demanded for the Negro people by several hundred Negro veterans of World War II in a mass meeting held at Morehouse College, here last week.

The meeting was held, under the auspices of the Georgia Veterans League, a recently formed organization of Negro ex-Servicemen.

As chairman of the meeting, Lt. John Turner, a former fighter pilot, declared, "We are determined to bring full democracy in every way, into every crack and corner of our state that we love."

Unanimously adopting a 14-point program of demands, the veterans went on record for eliminating Jim Crow from the GI Bill of Rights. They called for on-the-job training for Negro veterans in technical and industrial establishments, vocational and technical school training, and loans without discrimination to Negro veterans.

They demanded full civil and political rights and protection for every person.

The league will work to make every Negro of voting age a registered voter. Negroes must be hired by Atlanta and other Georgia cities as police officers and firemen, the veterans said.

OTHER DEMANDS

Other demands included:

- Negro veterans must be employed in the Veteran's Administration and in all Federal agencies at national, regional and local levels.

- Negro veterans must be employed at their highest skills.

- Equal school facilities for Negro children, including physical plants and equipment.

- Equal and adequate public health and hospital facilities.

- Equal justice under the law.

The Georgia Veterans League went on record for cooperation with labor and all organizations which "work for the general welfare of the community." The organization proposes "to employ every intelligent and honorable means devisable to carry out these points of action throughout the

The G. I. BILL OF RIGHTS

Philadelphia Tribune

EDITOR'S NOTE—Because every reader of the Philadelphia Tribune has some relative or friend in the Armed Forces of the United States, the Tribune, as a public service, is publishing in full the following digest of the so-called G. I. Bill of Rights Act, prepared by the Washington Bureau of the NAACP for the use of servicemen and their families. Complete administrative details for the operation of the Act have not been completed. For further details write to the Veterans' Administrator of Affairs, Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C. Clip this article and keep it. Copies of the Bill may be secured also from local branches of the NAACP or from the Washington Bureau, 100 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.

REVIEW OF YOUR DISMISSAL

If you were discharged or dismissed from the service in some manner other than by General Court Martial, you are entitled to have your discharge or dismissal reviewed by a Board of Review.

If you are an officer who was retired or released to inactive service for physical disability without pay by a Retirement Board, but the Board found no "service connected disability" in your case, you are entitled to have your case reviewed.

No review of a veteran's case will be undertaken unless requested by him or her. A wife, next of kin, or legal representative of a deceased veteran has the right to appeal the type of discharge or dismissal a veteran has received—except that received by action of a General Court Martial.

Requests for review must be sent to the Board of Review of the War or Navy Department, as the case may be.

GI EDUCATION

I. ELIGIBILITY

Any person who served on active duty in the army or navy on or after September 16, 1940, and before the end of the present war is entitled to this aid provided that:

- (1) Such person is not dishonorably discharged.
- (2) His education or training was delayed, interrupted, or interfered with by entrance into other service.
- (3) Such person has served for ninety (90) days. (Time spent in ASTP training and NCTP training is not included in this 90 day period.)
- (4) Such person is released or discharged by reason of a service-incurred injury or disability.
- (5) That you apply for educational aid not later than two (2) years after either the date of your discharge or end of present war, whichever is the later.
- (6) If you were not over 25 years old when you entered the service, you are automatically entitled to educational aid.
- (7) If you were over 25 years old when you entered the service, you are entitled to one year of education or training, or a refresher, or refresher course at an approved training institution. If you can prove that your education was interrupted or interfered with, you may receive educational aid beyond one year.

II. WHAT ARE YOUR BENEFITS?

1. You may choose any school in the United States you

G.I. Bill of Rights

want to attend if the school will accept you.

2. The Veterans' Administration will pay for such fees as tuition, laboratory, library, health, infirmary—and for your books, supplies and equipment if they do not exceed \$500 per year.

3. While in school you will be paid subsistence allowances of \$50.00 per month if you have no dependents, and \$75.00 per month if you have dependents—unless you are enrolled on part-time basis and receive payment for work done as part of your training. The sum you will receive under the latter circumstances will be determined by the Administrators of Veterans Affairs.*1

4. If you have a service-connected disability and can not continue in your old job, you are entitled to free training for a new job. While getting this training you are also entitled to such other benefits as are allowed veterans enrolled in school.

III. HOW DO YOU GET THESE BENEFITS?

1. Send to the Veterans Administration in Washington, D. C., for Veterans Administration Rehabilitation Form No. 1950. Fill this out and send it to:

(a) the regional office of the Veterans Administration where your case file is now located, or

*1—Major General Frank T. Hines, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

BUSINESS LOANS ELIGIBILITY

Any person, man or woman, who has served in the active military or naval service of the United States is eligible for a business loan, provided:

1. The veteran has an honorable discharge or release from our armed services.
2. The veteran has been in active service 90 days or more on or after September 16, 1940.
3. Was discharged by reason of an injury or disability incurred in line of duty.

To become a beneficiary of this Act the veteran must have been in active service at least 90 days — time spent in ASTP and NCTP is not counted.

WHEN TO MAKE APPLICATION

Application for a business loan must be made by the veteran not later than two years after the war ends or two years after he is discharged from the armed services, whichever is the later date. The deadline for applications is five years from the date the war terminates. It is contemplated that many will not be discharged until several years after the war ends and this provision of five year duration is for their benefit.

HOW MUCH CAN HE BORROW AND WHAT ARE THE TERMS?

1. The Administrator of Veterans Affairs will guarantee a loan up to .50 per cent of the amount required to go in business, but the limit of the guarantee is \$2,000.00. The loan may be secured for a period of 20 years at 4 per cent interest. For the first year no interest will be charged on the amount loaned and guaranteed by the Government.

2. The loan will be on the direct-reduction plan, no co-signers or co-makers are required nor will the veteran be forced to provide security or collateral for the loan which is guaranteed by the Government. However, if the amount bor-

rowed is more than the \$2,000 guaranteed by the Government, the excess will be subject to the terms of the lending institution from which the loan was obtained.

(b) the regional office in the State in which you have chosen to go to school, or

(c) the school you have chosen to attend. Be sure and instruct the school to forward your application to the proper authority.

2. For further information address the Manager, Veterans Administration, nearest your location.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Pennsylvania offices are in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh)

3. Full and complete data on the lending facilities have not yet been determined by the Administration, however, these factors are certain: the Veterans Administration, itself, will not loan any money but merely guarantee the loan which is administered by an approved financial institution. The only Government agency which would loan money for business investment is the RFC and its subsidiaries.

HOW WILL VETERANS GO ABOUT GETTING A LOAN?

Data on this procedure is not yet completed. However we suggest the following technique:

a. Consult the Veterans Administration Office located in the region where the veteran resides.*2 As is customary with Government agencies, most of the servicing is done by their field offices. The veteran should secure all blanks, necessary papers and instructions for a business loan from the regional office.

b. Consult your bank, secure business references and a statement from your bank or lending agency as to the amount they are willing to lend you, your credit references, and other information that will assure the Veterans Administration of your business integrity and ability.

c. A complete statement of the type of business which you intend to operate thus:

1. Place and location of the business.
2. Description of the business, blueprints of the physical features of the establishment, etc.
3. Estimated operating costs, overhead, equipment, number of employees and marketing potentialities.
4. Purchase price and terms of payment, if an outright purchase from the owner.
5. Assemble the veteran's discharge, papers, releases and all Army documents which are obtainable from the Armed Unit in which the veteran served.

6. Present all this material to the Veterans Administration for final decision as to the granting of the loan.

62—See list under Section on GI Education.

THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION REQUIRES THAT:

1. The proceeds of the loan shall be used for payment of real or personal property purchased and used by the veteran only in the operation of the business.

2. The said property will be useful and reasonably necessary for the efficient successful pursuit of the business.

3. There must be a reasonable likelihood that the veteran will succeed in this business.

4. That the purchase of the business property does not exceed a reasonable appraised value thereof.

A veteran may secure a second loan not to exceed 20 per cent of the purchase price or cost and the rate of interest shall not "exceed that on the principal loan by one per cent (1 per cent)."

The Government requires that it shall be subrogated to the loan and that the veteran and lending

agency shall notify the Veterans the Administration 30 days before may:

FARM LOANS ELIGIBILITY: 1-20-45

Same as that for Business Loans.

THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH YOU WILL USE THE LOAN

You must purchase land, buildings, livestock, equipment, machinery or implements, or repair, alter or improve any building or equipment to be used in farming operations conducted by you.

UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS CAN THE LOAN BE SECURED?

1. That you will use the money to pay for real or personal property purchased or to be purchased by you, and used by you in pursuit of your gainful occupation.

2. That the property purchased will be useful in and reasonably necessary to the efficient and successful pursuit of your occupation. 1-20-45

3. That you are able to convince the Veterans Administration that you have ability and experience in your proposed venture and that there is a reasonable assurance that you will not fail.

4. That the purchase of the farm property does not exceed a reasonable appraised value thereof. In other words, the purchase price of your farm must be within reason.

WHERE TO SECURE INFORMATION ABOUT LOANS

Go to the local Agricultural Extension Agent in your County.

HOME LOANS

Loans for buying or repairing homes to be lived in by the veteran may be guaranteed by the Veterans Administration. To get a loan of this kind, the veteran must have been in the service 90 days or more or have been discharged for reasons other than dishonorable. Application must be made to the Director of Finance, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., within two years after discharge or two years after the end of the war (whichever is the later), but in no event later than five years after the end of the war.

If the application is approved,

1. Guarantee the loan up to 50 per cent (one-half) provided that the amount to be guaranteed is not over \$2,000.

2. Pay the interest on the guaranteed loan for the first year.

Some of the important conditions are as follows:

1. The interest rate on loan must not be more than 4 per cent and must be payable in full in not more than 20 years.

2. The loan must be used for the purpose for which it is borrowed.

3. Income must be large enough to make payment of the loan appear to be possible.

4. The property to be bought must be worth the price to be paid.

5. The property must be fit for use as a home. 1-20-45

The veteran who applies for a loan to buy or repair a home will be taking on a financial obligation for a period of 20 years. He should be sure that he understands all of the risks. Some of the things he will need to know as much about as possible are:

1. Before buying a home be reasonably sure that it is located in a place where he will want to live and where he can hold a steady job which pays enough money to keep up payments on the notes. (The cost of a home should not be more than two times the yearly income).

2. Find out how much it will cost to maintain the home in addition to the monthly payments. This means find out the cost for taxes, insurance, water, lights, fuel and repairs.

3. Be very careful about buying an old house. (The Negro veteran must not let himself be used as a dumping ground for the old, worn-out houses no longer wanted by other buyers).

4. Be sure the size of the house is proper for the size family planned for. This would usually mean about four to six rooms.

5. Don't have a home repaired if it is in a run-down neighborhood unless you know that the neighborhood is to be rebuilt.

6. Find out what the standards are for a decent house before you use the loan to repair a place which may not be worth it.

EMPLOYMENT 1-20-45

You are entitled to get your old job back with your seniority status or you are entitled to another job of like seniority and pay. Report to your Selective Service Board immediately upon discharge. Selective Service is responsible for placing you on your old job or for getting you a new one provided you contact them within ninety (90) days after your discharge. If you have difficulty in this respect, call upon the United States District Court or the Federal District Attorney. This service is free.

READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES

If you have reported to the Veterans employment service of the United States Employment Service and you have been unable to get a job, you are entitled to unemployment benefits of \$20.00 per week for each week you are unemployed, but for not more than 52 weeks.

INSURANCE

You can convert your National Service Life Insurance to Civilian Life Insurance. Do not let your insurance lapse.

ADDENDUM TO THE GI BILL

Veterans of World War II receive benefits also by virtue of other recent Acts of Congress.

REHABILITATION OF DISABLED VETERANS

You are entitled to vocational rehabilitation under Public Law 16, approved in March, 1943, if you have: 1-20-45

I. ELIGIBILITY

(1) Received a discharge from active military or naval service after December 6, 1941, and prior to the termination of the present war, and

(2) A service-connected disability for which you will be eligible for pension, and

(3) A need of vocational rehabilitation to overcome an employment handicap.

II. WHAT ARE YOUR BENEFITS

While the Administrator of the Veterans Administration has power to prescribe and provide suitable training in public or private institutions, you are entitled to:

(1) Training not in excess of

four (4) years provided such to the performance of the job.

training does not extend beyond six (6) years after the war. (7) Minimum educational requirements are waived except for scientific, technical or professional positions. 1-20-45

(2) Compensation while pursuing training. (3) Continuance of pension for two months after becoming employable. 1-20-45

(4) Leaves of absence from such training not in excess of thirty (30) days during the year in the discretion of the Administrator. (8) Veterans passing examinations shall be placed on eligibility lists ahead of non-veterans with the same ratings except professional and scientific service with entrance salary above three thousand (\$3,000) dollars.

(9) In selecting employees from Civil Service registers, the appointing officer must file a statement, which shall be made available to the veteran upon his request, setting forth the grounds upon which he passed over the veteran and selected the non-veteran when both had comparable ratings.

PREFERENCES IN

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT Public Law No. 359, approved June 27, 1944, known as the Veterans Preference Act of 1944, gives to honorably discharged veterans, their widows, and the wives of disabled veterans who are themselves not qualified, preference in employment where federal funds are disbursed.

(10) Civil Service rules concerning two or more members of a family in the service shall not apply to a veteran, his wife, or his widow entitled to preference. (11) Veterans who are employed by the government at the time of entering the armed forces, time in such service is counted toward seniority on job.

(12) In reducing personnel in Federal Agencies, veterans shall be given preferred retention over non-veterans where they have equal efficiency ratings and length of service.

(13) Examinations will be given every three (3) months for any position which the Civil Service Commission has filled within three (3) years preceding June, 1944.

(2) If you are the wife of a serviceman who has a service-connected disability, or the widow of an honorably discharged serviceman, you are entitled to ten (10) points in addition to earned ratings in any Civil Service examination.

(3) If you are an ex-serviceman or woman with honorable discharge but without physical disability, you are entitled to five (5) points in addition to earned ratings in any Civil Service examination. 1-20-45

(4) Positions of guards, elevators operators, messengers and custodians are restricted to veterans, their widows or wives, as long as they are available during the present war and five years thereafter.

(5) Time spent in the armed forces is credited to experience where the veteran's employment in a similar occupation or vocation was interrupted by military service.

(6) Age height and weight are waived unless such are essential

Order Of Purple Heart In D.C. Accents 'White'

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Another Negro war veteran learned last week that his blood, suitable for spilling in combat, does not entitle him to be honored in the same organization as ex-fighting men with white faces.

Pvt. Samuel H. Dinkins, a former member of the U. S. army transportation corps and a veteran of the battle of Leyte, was informed here last week by Maj. Wilbur E. Dove, adjutant of the Mt. Vernon chapter, that he could not join that chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart because he is a Negro.

Pvt. Dinkins, who was wounded in the battle of Leyte, Philippine islands, was awarded the Order of the Purple Heart and was discharged from the army on March 3 with a 70 per cent nervous-disability rating for purposes of pension. He decided to join the MOPH after talking to an employee of the Veterans administration.

The employee, George Holland, made all arrangements for Pvt. Dinkins to join. The veteran filled out his application blank a few days later and forwarded to the MOPH's national office his \$5 membership fees. On June 12, he received a reply from William B. Eaton, national adjutant, with references to Maj. Dove, head of the Mt. Vernon chapter.

"I am sure he will send you the 1945 card within the next few days," he wrote. "I wish to take this opportunity to officially welcome you as an active member in our order and I am sure you will enjoy our membership."

On July 7, he received this reply from Dove:

"When I saw your application with name and address," Dove wrote, "I felt sure that you were a colored vet and therefore not eligible to membership in the Mt. Vernon chapter, because it was thought best not to try to mix white and colored P.H. veterans in the same outfit."

He explained MOPH policy as "to have separate chapters, one for white and one for colored. In other words, colored holders of the Purple Heart medal should organize a chapter of their own within the MOPH organization."

Pvt. Dinkins was advised to contact some other colored men who would be interest in organizing a chapter of their own in this area but he contacted the NAACP instead.

Leslie Sperry, head of the local

NAACP office, noted that Dove's organization used the word "patriot" and pointed out the irony of its use in a letter to the Mt. Vernon chapter. Dinkins was wounded fighting for all Americans, Sperry said.

"Any suggestion, therefore, that as a candidate for membership in the Military Order of the Purple Heart he must first organize an all-Negro chapter must strike him and others wounded on the battlefield as the epitome of irony."



AMPUTEES JOIN DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS—Commander David D. Dixon of Colonel Youngs Chapter No. 3, former Sergeant of Coast Artillery and ex-boxer, swears in veterans at the Forest Glen section of Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington. Front row—left to right: Cpl. William Foreman, Bolotom, Va., 7 months overseas duty, lost left leg; Pfc. James Vealy, Newark, N.J., 12 months, 18 days overseas duty, lost left leg. Back row—left to right: Staff Sgt. Joseph Robinson, Pittsburgh, Pa., 11 months overseas duty, lost left leg; Pfc. Curtis Harris, Charlottesville, N.C., 11 months, 16 days overseas duty, lost right leg; and Staff Sgt. Clifford Blye, New York City, 24 months overseas duty, lost right leg. 7-21-45

Nat'l Council Of Negro Veterans Launches Drive Will Seek 50,000 Members

The National Council of Negro Veterans Inc., launched its 1946 membership drive in October, starting on the first, in the twelve states in which it operates. The organization has grown rapidly in the past few months and according to E. H. Muldrew, national commander, a membership for fifty thousand is anticipated during 1946. The Council year begins November 11th and many locals have indicated already that they will have their entire 1945 membership

paid by that date 10-23-45

The national officers have been this type of organization has been spending the greater part of their time and energy the last few months in an effort to secure passage of S-305, a bill providing for the incorporation of the organization and in most cases is considered an act of Congress. The bill was introduced in the senate by Senator Capper of Kansas, and has the backing of the liberal members of Congress including Senator Pepper of Florida.

The effects of the bill having been introduced in the Senate have

already been noticed in sections where Negro veterans have been denied membership in other national veterans organizations such as the American Legion and V. F. W. S. Attempts have recently been made in these sections to organize Negro veterans under sponsorship of American V. F. W. S. Posts.

In Arkansas, Alabama, Florida and many other southern states

this type of organization has been vigorously pushed by persons other than Negroes. This set-up does not meet the demands of Negro veterans who are organization-minded and in most cases is considered an insult to their intelligence.

Aside from this, the Council is looking forward to perfecting plans for the training of Negro youth in statecraft and the science of government. Veterans of both World Wars I and II are eligible for membership as well as members of

when the armed forces provided them separated from the service they do not receive discharge benefits. Interested comrades should contact the National Commander, at 2325 Park Avenue, Kansas City 1 Missouri; or National Secretary O. S. Bond, 733 Paralell Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas.

**CAPTAIN ALLEN L. JOHNSON
ELECTED NAT'L COMMANDER**

Following its organization in 1931 with Dr. R. L. Johnson, a captain of World War I, now deceased, as national commander, during a two-year period the National Association of Negro War Veterans made great progress. During the two-year period more than 65 chapters were organized in Mississippi, with other chapters in Georgia.

tion, the high cost of the organization work and the coming of the depression which lasted so long as to exhaust its funds and reduce the membership, together with the radical changes in the veterans disability laws during that period so greatly affected the organization until further organization efforts were abandoned in 1933. Under the new plan of organization and with conditions as they now affect veterans a great success is already being predicted for the Association.

To engage in such social, fraternal, religious, educational, civic, financial and other benevolent activities for the promotion of their own happiness and welfare, and for the welfare of others, as may be consistent with the by-laws and the laws of the land.

To establish state or district units of the National Organization under such rules and regulations as may be subscribed by the by-laws.

To collect an entrance fee for membership, and periodic fees or dues from its members, for the pur-

tion is Charles Milton, wounded veteran with three years overseas service in the Pacific and now owner of one of Atlanta's large Negro barber shops.

The organization, which started as a small local recreation project of the USO Service Men's center, attracted such attention from returning Negro servicemen that it is fast growing into a veteran's organization of statewide proportions.

C. W. Greenlea, director of the USO center, in an interview, attributed the phenomenal growth of the league to an intense desire of Negro veterans to belong to a veterans organization but stated that none of the present outstanding organizations catered to Negro membership in Georgia. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans all are conservative organizations, he stated, and none accepted Negroes into their established Georgia posts.

The organization, as stated in its charter, has as its primary purpose, "to promote and serve the economic, political, recreational and welfare needs of honorably discharged Negro servicemen and to encourage democracy for all American citizens." Every member of the organization must become a registered voter as one of the prerequisites for joining.

Spreading out over Georgia, chapter posts have already been formed in Savannah, Macon, Lithonia, Cordele and Moultrie.

1 Recently securing a state charter and incorporating, the organization attracted attention of Negro

veterans throughout the country and plans are now on foot to expand nationally.

The list of officers and incorporating committee reveals that the league is largely led by college students, small business men and professional workers.

In addition to Milton, officers

are, vice president, Solomon Johnson, senior accounting student, Morehouse college; secretary, William Sullivan, teacher, Booker Washington High school; treasurer, Charles Westbrook, restaurant owner. The executive committee includes Charles W. Greenlea, James Patrick, pre-medical student at Morehouse college; Moss H. Kendrix, public relations director for the Liberian consulate, Russell Simmons, advertising manager for the Atlanta Daily World and Russell Carter, law student at Harvard university.

Milton recently studied at American university to become a national service officer. He is now licensed to press claims and examine records at Veterans administration offices throughout the country and intends to perform this service for the league's members.

He said the league has found that some Negro servicemen are receiving "blue" discharges from the army purely because they were disliked by their white commanding officers. The league, he said, intends to expose and fight this practice.

He also stated that the matter of adequate hospital facilities for veterans would be a prime interest of the league, charging that hospital No. 48 in Atlanta discriminated by placing Negro veterans in the basement without proper sanitary facilities, and that the veteran's hospital in Tuskegee was overcrowded and carried applicants on a waiting list for six months.

A black and white portrait of a young man in a military uniform. He is wearing a dark peaked cap with a circular emblem on the front. He has short, dark hair and is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored collared shirt and a dark necktie. The background is plain and light-colored. On the left side of the image, the text "N.Y., N.Y." is handwritten in dark ink.

Vet Counsellor. Henry Gordon Roberts, one of fifty World War II vets who has already been appointed by Gov. Dewey as a New York State Veteran Counsellor. The appointee served in the army four-and-a-half years—fifteen months of that time in the African and Italian campaigns. He was a member of the 366 Infantry and was attached to the Headquarters Company. 10-13-48

Administration by Negro veterans
Mes. 11-24-45
Southern States to date
Denied Negro veterans the
to establish posts. This
by the Minneapolis post is
the full rights for Negro vet-
in all States.

**Full Rights for Negro
Vets Aim of Minn. Post**

11-24-45

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Johnnie Baker Post here will demand full recognition for Negro veterans when the American Legion holds its national convention. The post has decided on a definite program of progressive action, result of a two-year study by one of its committees.

Representing the post at the convention designed to take place in St. Louis next month will be Ben Percy, who the American Legion declares that "Citizenship must be secured for them their convention will be Ben Percy, who the stigma from all colored veterans obtained for the Negro veteran be full rights as citizens."

Percy pointed out that wherever he goes, there is no Negroes have suffrage, there is no Percy C. Hughes, Baker Post discrimination in the organization commandant, says one reason for except that accepted locally by the apparent unconcern regarding veterans themselves. Negro veterans by the national The Minneapolis post has adopted body is that there has never been

2 Negro Vets Relied on GI Loan Law But Find Banks Can Veto Congress

Daily Worker
By MILDRED MCADORY and JOHN MELDON

Hiram Jeete and Bob Anderson are two thoroughly disgusted Negro veterans. Here's their story. They came out of the Army with fine records, brimming over with hopes of a new Promised Land. The gee for 23 months and was blocked GI Bill of Rights said so. President from entering the Air Forces as a Roosevelt before his death had said bombardier or navigator. With 75 so. But now they find at the other Negro cadets, he waited 18 banks say NO—they can't get that months at Tuskegee, trying to get loan to open a little record and radio into a Jimcrow air training base in repair shop, *new York N.Y.* Texas. Then he was "reclassified"

Jeete and Anderson have talked and went into the Army. After being demobilized, he went to work for the U. S. Post Office.

Milton Becker, an attorney for the International Labor Defense, knows all about Hiram's and Robert's case. *12-21-45*
"No business of its kind within blocks," Hiram says. "Not a shop that sells records or does repair work." Robert nods glumly in agreement.

"We're sure it will work if they would only lend us the money we are entitled to under the GI Bill," says Robert. *12-21-45*

The bankers have other notions. One institution demanded they produce evidence of previous "business experience." Another bank official said they had to have money of their own on deposit before they could get a loan.

"Money of our own?" Hiram asks indignantly. "If we had money of our own, why should we be asking for a loan?"

"How many vets have money of their own?" Robert wants to know.

Hiram spent 19 months in the Army, eight long months overseas with a tank battalion. He went through France and Belgium and was taken out of the battle line at Cologne when his sight began to go bad. Now he is attending New York University and intends to continue studying at night if he and Robert can open their shop.

"The educational program under the GI BILL is the only part that works apparently," Hiram says.

In civilian life, Hiram worked in the sort of shop he wants to run now. He also did recordings in the Army. "I know all about the business."

Anderson was a cadet at Tuske-

Milton Becker, an attorney for the International Labor Defense, knows all about Hiram's and Robert's case. *12-21-45*

"It's almost impossible for a Negro to get a loan from a bank," he says, "as it is up to the bank alone to decide who will get the loans. The government should take the responsibility for loans to veterans. That's the only way they will be guaranteed security."

Meanwhile, Hiram and Robert are disheartened.



This is probably the first picture of this or any other war showing enlisted men so happy to see a two-star general that they lifted him to their shoulders and cheered. The men are some of the 1127 European Theater veterans who finally made a beachhead on Manhattan Friday on the Army transport Saturnia, which brought them home from Bermuda, where they were stranded when their two troopships became disabled. Maj. Gen. Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the New York Port of Embarkation, the man they were so happy to see, was responsible for sending the Saturnia down to Bermuda to bring them home for Christmas. Photo by Morris Gordon, PM

California Units Told

Disabled Veterans *The Pittsburgh Courier* Cannot Discriminate *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

LOS ANGELES—Chapters of Disabled American Veterans, Inc., cannot deny membership to eligible non-whites, and the DAV cannot require the formation of separate chapters on the grounds of race, creed or color. This is the opinion of Judge Advocate Alfred Aram of the California Department of SOME NEGRO CHAPTERS

DAV, given as a reply to questions posed by a chapter under his jurisdiction. His opinion was approved and adopted by Joseph Spedding, the State commander.

CHARTER FORBIDS SEGREGATION 12-8-45

In giving his opinion to the first question, the judge advocate held up Section 5 of the DAV charter as a standard of eligibility for membership. It reads:

"Any man or woman who was wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in line of duty during time of war while in the service of either the military or naval forces of the United States of America, and who has been honorably discharged or separated from such service or who may still be in active service in the armed forces of the United States is eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans. Others who were disabled while serving with any of the armed forces of any nation associated with the United States as allies during any of its war periods, who are American citizens and who were honorably discharged, are also eligible."

Mr. Aram said: 12-8-45
"We find nothing in this language, express or implied, which could be construed to grant to us the right to discriminate on the grounds of race, color or creed."

"Not only Congress has not left us any such choice, but by express language, has prohibited it."

In discussing the second question, Mr. Aram took the attitude that the question of separate chapters must be approached entirely from a consideration of which plan will enable "these comrades to better enjoy the privileges of membership, and also make them most effective in the discharge of their responsibilities."

12-8-45
"Our experience in California," he said, "and elsewhere has proved that in chapters where there are common bonds in addition to the bond common to all disabled veterans, they have been able to function with greater harmony and, therefore, they have been more effective. Thus we have chapters composed entirely of naval personnel. We have chapters composed entirely of disabled veterans who are now in Government service. So we have chapters composed entirely of veterans of a certain campaign, or who served in a particular arm of service. In many of our chapters we have Negro comrades who enjoy the respect and affection of their respective chapters, and some hold office."

12-8-45
"Therefore, the answer to the second question is that we cannot require the formation of separate chapters on the grounds of race, color or creed. But we can and should make available to them the experience of such separate chapters, and wherever greater advantages will accrue to them and to the organization, we should assist in organizing their own chapters."

12-8-45
In discussing the first question, Mr. Aram pointed to the purposes of the organization as defined by its charter:

"To uphold and maintain the Constitution and the laws of the United States, to realize the true American ideals and aims for which those to membership fought."

"It would require extraordinary moral obtuseness and monumental cynicism," declared Mr. Aram, "to say that we may discriminate on the grounds of race, color or creed, and at the same time fulfill our purpose . . . Such discrimination is the very negation and the death knell of the American ideal. . . .

12-8-45
CANNOT BE TOLERATED
"The promise to uphold and maintain the Constitution is a pledge to uphold and maintain the American ideals. Bigotry, race prejudice, intolerance, the stupidity of self-arrogated superiority, discrimination on the grounds of race, color or creed, cannot be tolerated by an organization of veterans functioning under a charter granted by the Congress of the United States and where it professes to uphold and maintain the Constitution."

12-8-45
"We take it that those who were chosen, without discrimination as to race, color or creed to fight by our side for the preservation of the American ideals, have the right to expect that those of us who have sworn to uphold and maintain the Constitution and to 'realize the American ideals' will 'uphold their integrity and character and will exemplify toward them the principles of comradeship, loyalty, and devotion."

12-8-45
COULD REVOKE CHARTER
"Therefore, any veteran who is eligible for membership as prescribed by Congress is entitled to membership in a chapter of the Disabled American Veterans nearest his place of residence."

12-8-45
"Any denial of such right on the grounds of race, color or creed is a violation of our oath or membership, and is conduct contrary to the provisions of our charter. I would amount to the use of our Congressional Charter to unconstitutional, un-American ends, and would be sufficient to justify the revocation of our charter."

Negro Vets Returning to South Need Labor's Aid

Daily Worker
By HENRY WINSTON

(Excerpt from Remarks at National Committee Meeting, Nov. 18, N.Y., N.Y., 1945)

I want to speak on some problems pertaining to Negro veterans. It should be pointed out that in spite of indignities and humiliations suffered, they played a decisive role in the military defeat of the enemy in Europe and Asia.

Now that the war is over these veterans are returning to civilian life with increased knowledge and greater political maturity. We should take note of the fact that a great many of them were not members of trade unions before entering the armed service. A large section of them were unskilled, they had no previous experiences with political and civic organizations. Because of this, many veterans looked upon their military participation in the fight with German-Italian-Japanese fascism as a fight to liberate other people from foreign bondage. These veterans did not necessarily see the oneness of the fight to defeat the enemy abroad and the struggle for complete democracy at home. But they have now concluded that if they can fight for freedom in a military way, it is possible to fight politically for freedom at home. However, there were those that understood the unity of struggle at home and abroad and are now determined to push aggressively for full citizenship rights.

CHAUVINIST DRIVE

There are not a few enemies of unity that are carrying on a campaign in many forms of chauvinist incitement against the Negro troops, against the Negro veteran. The main line of the campaign is to minimize, if not to completely discredit, the contributions made by Negro troops. In this respect the unjustified attack upon the 92nd division and the fascist-like outburst of Senator Eastland and others was not accidental. The limited number of Negro troops in combat units is due entirely to War Department policy. In this respect the chauvinist outburst among some sections of white troops to the effect that: "Negro troops arrive at the front when there is no longer any danger," is not without its conscious source.

If we consider together with this the fact that the Ne-

gro veterans are returning to civilian life when there is growing unemployment and sharpening attacks upon the Negro people the conditions are being created for an attitude of mass cynicism on the part of Negro veterans.

DANGER SIGNAL

This mass cynicism, which is a subjective reaction to chauvinism engendered by the ruling circles of the country, may take the form of Negro nationalism. This is a danger signal to the unity of Negro and white, to the unity of labor and the Negro veterans. Unless the labor movement takes note of this fact and aggressively champions the interest of the returned Negro veteran it is impossible to speak seriously of a struggle to strengthen the alliance between the Negro veteran and labor. It is also important for the labor movement to make known to the returned Negro veterans the important gains made on the home front while they were in the army as well as significant advances made in the army; at the same time developing the necessary struggles to win for them their demands and the conditions of civilian life. This struggle should be carried on under the heading: **Defend the Honor of Negro Troops.**

Such a struggle must take on concrete forms. In the discussion so far and in our literature I noticed that something has been missing. Of the more than 800,000 Negro troops, about three-fourths of them came from the South. Of that majority most of them were from the rural communities. Most of these veterans had no trade union experience or any relationship with farmers, organizations. They were in the main tenants and sharecroppers. These veterans acquired many skills while in the army. They learned how to operate heavy equipment, master complicated machinery and instruments; many became radio technicians, electricians, truck drivers, mechanics. They do not want to return to the old order of things. They want to put these new skills to use as workers or as farmers. They want a different mode of life than existed before they entered the army. The labor movement can help achieve this.

But many of the veterans from the South feel that the solution of their problem is impossible in the South. Some see hope in achiev-

ing the things they desire by moving west and others by migrating to the North. There are a large body who are thinking in terms of moving to England, France, or the Soviet Union. Clearly this is no solution at all. But the fact that such moods as this exist is in itself indicative of a serious problem.

There is a great danger of frustration, because in this area from which the bulk of Negro soldiers are returning they see no hope in the solution of their problems. Again, the labor movement's responsibility in the South is to come forward as the consistent champion of the rights and interest of these veterans. In this connection it is important to remember that a large number of the veterans being tenants necessitates an approach on the part of the labor movement that will also consider their special needs. Any approach by the labor movement that limits itself to the veterans in the urban communities will weaken and narrow the base of its natural allies. This approach to the countryside will help to destroy the infamous plantation system and the semi-feudal conditions that exist in the South. There can be no doubt that the results of such a struggle will in turn strengthen the labor movement and thereby its leadership role in the whole struggle for democracy in the country as a whole.

Specific demands must be made insofar as land reforms, helping the returned veterans to purchase land in the South, to buy machinery, to buy seed, to build homes on land that they purchase; these are the things that the Negro soldier is thinking about. We must give to the returned soldier hope because the only reason he wants to leave the South is that he sees no hope of solving his problems there. The labor movement has to show him that it can be done by unity of labor with the Negro people.

There are a couple of agencies such as Farm Security Administration that should be investigated to see to what extent benefits can be secured to help solve these problems. There is also the GI Bill of Rights which must be liberalized and changed to make it possible for Negro soldiers to obtain loans. And above all, we must guarantee that the GI Bill

Negro Vet Hero Fights to Bring Buddies Home

By BETH McHENRY

Everett (Teek) Thomas, 29-year-old veteran of some of the toughest fighting on the Western Front, says he thinks you have to be a GI yourself to get the real feeling of this troopship deal.

"The biggest single issue before this country today is just that—getting our troops back to the states," Thomas told us in an interview the other day. "And in the delays and the diversion of ships to other things you can find all the dangers that threaten this nation and the world—intervention against other peoples, complete disregard for the soldiers themselves and their folks back home, and greed of the kind that brought the war we fought in on." *N.Y., N.Y.*

"Teek" Thomas says that's why he was so glad to see the National Maritime Union raise the issue of troopships.

"Teek" got his lumps out of this war, himself. Wounds of the kind that most men don't live to remember. He got it on the night of March 30 last, along the fiery road to Munich. "Teek" says the casualties were high in his company, made up of volunteer Negro combat troops whose job was to support an armored tank battalion. He remembers proudly that "we supported them well."

WHITES IMPRESSED *N.Y.*

Thomas, who is now Manhattan Director of the American Youth for Democracy, says some of the men in the tank battalion, who were all white, were unbelieving when they heard that the Negro infantrymen supporting them had all volunteered for combat.

"They should have seen the thousands of Negro soldiers who were turned away when the call for combat volunteers came through," "Teen" said. "They took only about 2,700 of us."

Thomas got the Purple Heart for defying death on the German front. He says he got more than that out of the war. He experienced the satisfaction of seeing white soldiers find out that Negroes were as brave and wise as men can be. *11-14-45*



EVERETT THOMAS

"There was a white tankman got it about the time I did on the same action," Thomas said. "We wound up alongside each other in the hospital and I guess we got to be as good friends as men can get."

"You know when you share a battle, there's a bond that doesn't get erased easily. He was the same as a lot of the other white guys—never had known any Negroes very well but had absorbed prejudices because of all the propaganda against colored people. He used to tell me over and over when we talked there in the hospital he was sorry it took a war to make him find out that a man's color doesn't make him any different from his fellow men."

BLOW TO RACISTS

"Teek" Thomas says he thinks the current election is proving that plenty of people have learned to hate race prejudice. He is glad he was home in time to work for Ben Davis' reelection to the Council. And he worked hard, despite his still-weak condition—he canvassed and spoke at open-air meetings and didn't get home early enough to put his little kids to bed throughout the campaign.

Thomas said the AYD's big campaign now is the No. 1 job for the nation—the demobilization of

troops.

"You might tell your readers we're going to picket the War Shipping Administration on Saturday, Nov. 24," he said, "and they're welcome to join us."

Negro Scribe Named To Veterans' Post *Chicago, Illinois* *(Defender Washington Bureau)*

WASHINGTON — Joseph Francis Albright, veterans correspondent for the Associated Negro Press, has been appointed information specialist to the administrative staff, Veterans Administration.

In this position, Albright will conduct investigations and secure information for the administrative staff, including the administrator, Gen. Omar Bradley. *11-17-45*

Recently discharged from the army, the new appointee has a long career of twenty years in public service and race relations. Reliable, but unconfirmed reports indicate that one of Albright's early assignments will be a field trip with Gen. Bradley.

Woman Out-Talks General Bradley

The Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By JAMES L. HICKS
NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Gen. Omar N. Bradley, administrator of Veterans' Affairs, was kept last Thursday from reading to a delegation a statement he had prepared setting forth the policy of the Veterans' Administration respecting race segregation and discrimination in veterans' facilities. 12-29-45

Mrs. Thomas W. Johnson, legislative representative of the AKA Non-Partisan Council, beat him to the drop and for 24 minutes (of the 30 minutes allowed by Gen. Bradley for the conference) read a wordy statement.

DELEGATES DISAGREE

After the conference the delegation disagreed among themselves as to whether the statement should have been read or left with Gen. Bradley.

Instead of reading his prepared statement, Gen. Bradley used four minutes to tell the delegates he would attempt integration in veterans' hospitals wherever it could be done, but he would do it through individual managers of veterans' hospitals and not by a blanket order. 12-29-45

NO BLANKET ORDER

To issue a blanket order abolishing segregation in all veterans' hospitals would only lead to trouble for all concerned, he said.

Asked whether he was considering appointing a colored man as his executive assistant, Gen. Bradley revealed that he had reached a decision on the matter, but as a result of "adverse publicity" currently being given to the Veterans' Administration, he and his advisers had deemed it inadvisable to make the selection at this time. He added the matter is still under consideration.

WON'T ANSWER 12-29-45

Mrs. Myrtle R. Phillips, representing the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, asked the general if any colored men had been among those advising him not to appoint a colored executive assistant at this time. Gen.

Bradley told her he preferred not to answer that question.

The ill-planned conference began promptly at 10:30 a. m. When Mrs. Johnson, spokesman for the group, greeted Gen. Bradley and immediately began to read the statement authorized by the delegation.

Gen. Bradley remained standing throughout the entire reading, glancing up nervously from time to time at the clock on the wall.

POORLY CONDUCTED

Apparently not satisfied with the reading of the entire document, Mrs. Johnson then took another two minutes of the fleeting time to explain to Gen. Bradley what she had just read and when the general finally had an opportunity to talk, the conference had exactly four minutes to run.

William S. Anderson, representative of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, noting that the conference was about to end in failure, rose and asked: "General, what can we report to our respective organizations as to whether any concrete action will be taken by you in this matter?"

In reply, Gen. Bradley reiterated his first statement that "I will attempt integration wherever it can be done, but I'll do it through my managers and not by blanket order."

Promptly at 11 o'clock, the general's aide rose from the table where he had been seated, signifying that the conference was over, but Gen. Bradley, who had remained standing during the whole conference, allowed the delegation to remain an additional 10 minutes and ask a few questions. 12-29-45

NOTES A DIFFERENCE

When a member of the group told Gen. Bradley that the Army had successfully integrated white and colored soldiers in hospitals, he reminded the delegation of the disciplinary powers the Army has over its men and pointed out that he could not treat civilians in a like manner.

Commenting on the all-colored hospital at Tuskegee, the gen-

eral said that some colored people looked upon it as monument but reminded the group that he did not put it there.

"I inherited it," he said.

STARTLES DELEGATION

He then startled the delegation by saying he did not know whether another all-colored hospital would be built or not. Two hundred-fifty beds of a proposed all-colored 500-bed hospital have been transferred to Alexandria, La. The remaining 250 beds allocated under the appropriation are still "unlocated" and may be converted into another Jim Crow colored hospital. 12-29-45

Joseph H. B. Evans, representative of the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternities, told Gen. Bradley of some injustices to colored people practiced in the VA home office in Washington, citing the case of a lawyer who had been a messenger in the Veterans' Administration for 25 years without advancement.

He also said a colored employee had found it necessary to transfer from the office in Huntington, W. Va., to New York, because that office would not promote him to be an adjudicator, although he was qualified. 12-29-45

NINE REQUESTS MADE

The nine specific requests of the delegation were set out on the first page of the statement Mrs. Johnson read. They were as follows:

1. That policy be established immediately abolishing race or religious segregation and discrimination in all services, facilities and benefits under the Veterans' Administration.
2. That there be established in the Veterans' Administration administrative procedures for enforcement of such an over-all policy.
- 3-6. That colored persons be appointed as executive assistant to the administrator and as assistants to the assistant administrator for vocational training, rehabilitation and education, the assistant administrator for medicine, and surgery, and the assistant administrator for personnel.
7. That the administration of the department of medicine and surgery be reviewed with a view to effectuating a policy of non-segregation and non-discrimination in regard to personnel, services, and patients.
8. That an investigation be made to determine the extent to which colored veterans are sharing in the benefits under the GI Bill of Rights.
9. That the personnel practices of the Veterans' Administration be changed to conform with a policy of non-segregation and non-discrimination in all offices.

Mrs. Johnson prefaced her reading of the statement to Gen. Bradley by telling him the

newspapers said he had been giving the delegation a "run-around," but she knew this was not true. 12-29-45

The following persons were in the delegation: William S. Anderson, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Mrs. Marion B. Seymour, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; Spurgeon Burke, Omega Psi Phi; Joseph H. B. Evans, Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Pi Phi fraternities; William H. Jernigan, National Council of Negro Churches; Mrs. Geneva K. Valentine, National Negro Business and Professional Women's League; Mrs. Myrtle R. Phillips, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Mrs. Grace Drew, Gay North-easterners; Mrs. Josephine Kyles, Washington Federation of Churches; Mrs. Alice L. Bell, Phyllis Wheatley YMCA; Mrs. Thelma Chiles Taylor, National Council of Negro Women; Richard Atkinson, National Bar Association; and Miss Marian Barber, NAACP.

Dr. E. Franklin Frazier and Dr. Martin Jenkins attended the conference but did not represent any particular group.

CLAIM VETERAN' HOSPITALS SHOW RANK DISCRIMINATION

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)

—At a conference sponsored by the Georgia Veterans League to discuss the subject of hospitalization for veterans, Atlanta veterans and citizens went on record as urging the Veterans' Administration to "integrate Negro veterans in whatever hospital program of expansion is worked out."

In a letter to Gen. Omar Bradley, chief of the Veterans Administration in Washington, D. C., a committee pointed out that there is not a single hospital in Georgia which adequately hospitalizes Negro veterans on a permanent basis. 12-29-45

The letter charged that Hospital No. 48 in Atlanta admits only two Negroes per month and even these must be emergency cases.



DO YOU AGREE?

BY J. FRANCIS PRICE

THE CAROLINIAN is on solid ground when it argues that a Negro should have been appointed to the five-man North Carolina Veteran Commission authorized by the 1945 State Assembly. The fact that the law of the State of North Carolina calls for segregation should suggest in a democracy that those segregated against should be represented by one of their own.

It is equally true as indicated by the CAROLINA TIMES that had the subject of a Negro appointee to the Commission come to the attention of the Governor the Governor would have assigned a Negro to the Commission. This fact does not relieve the Governor of his responsibility to all of the citizens of the State. It does suggest that Negro leaders were asleep at the switch when they did not make representations to the Governor in this connection since they know how easy it is for those in authority to overlook matters which involve official recognition of the Negro in the general scheme of things.

In spite of the fact that there is no Negro on the Commission there are still Negro veterans whose interests need to be protected and whose welfare must be considered. The job remains to be done in some way.

While we cannot compensate entirely for the absence of a Negro representative we can choose one of several ways of seeing that the interests of the Negro will not be ignored. In the first place Negro leaders of the State can ask the Veterans Commission itself to appoint with the blessings of the Governor a sub or adjunct Commission to make special recommendations concerning Negro veterans' affairs at the regular meetings of the Commission. This sub-commission would receive a proper budget from the Commission, work out of that office, make surveys and investigations which would aid the Commission in the proper performance of its duties.

The late President Roosevelt did a similar thing in his administrative organization when he created his own special group of advisors and agency heads although some of the functions of the special groups had been normally considered a part of cabinet offices already duly authorized. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the War Production Board and the War Labor Board had duties in an unusual situation which under normal conditions would have been assigned to the Department of Commerce or to the Department of Labor.

A second way to have the Negro point of view considered would include the creation of a position as racial advisor to the Commission. It is recognized that there are many who will regard the racial advisor position as a supernumerary—a sort of glorified Uncle Tom. Many experiences with the Negro racial relations officers in Washington give weight to that contention. But there are some experiences which say that some of the racial advisors

are making a real contribution and are doing a job which actually benefits the Negro as a whole.

The Commission itself with the proper encouragement could appoint a Negro consultant with the function of advising on Negro veterans' interests.

Another method would involve Negroes throughout the State in every community could be setting up committees—a kind of watching post—to discover the needs of the Negro veteran, to interpret for him the GI Bill of Rights, and to inform the Veterans Commission of any irregularities appertaining thereunto. Raleigh is especially fortunate in having two privately supported institutions of higher education with men who have the training and the inclination to understand the GI Bill of Rights and to counsel with the veteran who may not know what might be his rights and privileges under the law. There are of course the high schools and the various social agencies with well trained persons capable of rendering the counselling service and protesting in case of inequities. The church too might be able to arrange to provide assistance for these veterans. There are Negro churches everywhere.

It is certain and just that definite attention should be given to the Negro veteran. Already his return home is being delayed because of the fact that the War Department has set up a point system under which Negro veterans in large numbers may not qualify for the privilege of returning home soon. Under this system much credit is given for combat service and combat awards. Negroes are for the most part denied the opportunity of serving in combat units. Whereas a soldier in a combat unit may have five points for each combat award and five points for actual combat the soldier who is in a non-combat unit cannot hope for such credit because he is not permitted to fight. It is reasonable to suspect that Negroes who are not generally assigned to combat units will be a long time coming home under the point system.

Meanwhile the white soldiers with combat opportunities will be demobilized and will have had every chance to pick over and take the jobs by the time the Negro returns. For this reason, if for no other, some special attention of the Veteran Commission and all other agencies concerned with veterans should be well informed about and well disposed toward the Negro who comes back from the war.

It does not follow that because there is no Negro on the Commission now all will be lost. Enterprising Negroes who want to see justice done in the State of North Carolina have yet further recourse in this very important matter. Some good may still be done.

DO YOU ARGEE?

See Hope For Negro In New Veterans Post

CHICAGO DEFENDER
ILL. 9-1-45
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Hopes that the Negro veterans may soon have a representative in the United States Veterans Administration were revived this week.

Gen. Omar Bradley's appointment of Lt. Col. Mary Agnes Brown, former WAC staff director in the Pacific, to take care of the affairs of women "vets" who

are considered a "special" group in veterans affairs, gave rise to increased assurance that the Veterans' Administrator is aware of the need for administrative representation in the Veterans Administration whose experience and interest is geared to the group which they must serve.

In many quarters it is believed that he will make an early move to take care of the needs of Negro veterans by appointing a Negro to an administrative post.

Johnson Favored

Widely mentioned for the position and reportedly having the support of the administration, is Col. Campbell C. Johnson, presently serving as administrative assistant to the director of National Selective Service. 9-1-45

Following World War I, Colonel Johnson served in the Veterans Administration for a short period, and succeeded in achieving a creditable record of accomplishments for Negro veterans.

In his present position, he has been widely hailed as having been largely responsible for the non-discriminatory administration of the Selective Service Act with respect to Negro inductees.

The future of the Negro veteran has increasingly become the concern of large numbers of public and private agencies throughout the country. The handling of Negro veterans' affairs during the past few years have done little to allay this concern.

Chief among the complaints has been the continued segregation of Negro veterans in Jim Crow hospitals and other facilities.

Bare Tuskegee Setup

The Jim Crow Tuskegee veterans facility has frequently been aired in an attempt to get better consideration for Negro veterans.

Specific among the evils cited at Tuskegee is the appointment of white guardians for Negro psychiatric veterans. For a fee of 10 percent of the veterans total income, these "guardians" handle their entire personal affairs including all funds. According to information, the guardians are appointed without respect to the veterans' wishes. A former physician at the hospital who along with a dozen or more others resigned in protest of this and other practices, described the guardianship arrangement as "quite a racket." He said that many of these guardians handled the affairs of from 30-40 Negro veterans.

He described as a case in point a veteran who had been at the hospital for more than 20 years. Considered sufficiently improved to go home for a 30-day trial period, the guardian reported "no funds available." A request for accounting, he said, got lost in the shuffle.

It is believed that this and other practices will get a thorough overhauling under Gen. Bradley.

Rankin, Gibson Love Negro Veterans - Segregated

P.M. Want Soldiers Wounded for Country in Separate Hospitals

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 2.—Reps. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) and John S. Gibson (D., Ga.), a brace of fine old Southern gentlemen, just love the Negroes. They keep saying so every chance they get during House Committee hearings on defects in veterans' hospitals.

Of course, Negroes must be segregated in Veterans Administration facilities . . . white nurses should not be allowed to attend Negro veterans . . . it would be a fine thing if every State had an all-Negro hospital . . . Negro employes have just about ruined the Library of Congress.

Rankin and Gibson beamed at each other and agreed on these things. But they love the Negroes.

"I think I know niggers," said Gibson pontifically. "I grew up with them, played with them and I know they're not happy if they must associate with white folks. They're not at ease."

Rankin smiled happily at his cadaverous colleague.

Want to Be Alone

Gibson was testifying about a veterans' hospital (all-Negro, from manager to mess attendant) at Tuskegee, Ala., when the subject came up.

"You oughta see those niggers there," declared Gibson. "They're as happy as can be. Strawberries at every plate during meals. They're living better than they ever did in their lives before."

Of course, these "niggers" are war veterans, hospitalized for injuries suffered fighting for the right of Rankin and Gibson to talk that way. But they should not contaminate the pure whites of the Old South by being in the same hospital for treatment.

The Committee's last two witnesses brushed a thin coat of calumine over charges published in PM and Hearst's *Cosmopolitan* that veterans did not receive the best of care in VA hospitals. But the truth showed through. Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R., N. Y.) and Errett P. Scribner (R., Kan.) con-



Rep. John E. Rankin

firmed published findings the day before.

Gibson and Rep. A. S. J. Carnahan (D., Mo.) found "nothing to justify criticism" on their tours of veterans' facilities throughout the South. Gibson went so far as to suggest that Albert Maisel's charges in *Cosmopolitan* were made with "an ulterior motive" and suggested he be called back to face the Committee and explain himself.

Full of Praise

Gibson had nothing but praise for the administration of the Tuskegee VA hospital. "One of the best operated I ever saw, if not the best," he praised. He was loud in admiration of Col. E. H. Dibble, Jr., Negro Harvard graduate, who is manager of the hospital.

At Lake City, Fla., Gibson was horrified to find that white nurses were in attendance on some Negro soldiers.

"Knowing Negroes as I do, I think they'd be happier if they had colored nurses and attendants," he declared. "I recommend to the Committee that this situation be corrected."

In answer to questions respecting the Atlanta, Ga., veterans hospital, Gibson couldn't remember that he had heard a single complaint of any consequence. This was in marked contrast to evidence given by Kearney and Scribner

earlier. They had complaints, some major and some minor, from every hospital they visited.

Gibson added that Col. Dibble agreed with him "in toto" on the business of segregation. Furthermore, he said, Dibble agreed that Negroes do not have to be mixed with whites to be able to "improve themselves." Throughout his testimony, Gibson referred to the Tuskegee Hospital as "the nigger hospital."

Just 'Agitators'

"Only the people who want to destroy segregation are the agitators who are trying to promote themselves through the niggers," he said.

Rankin said anybody was crazy who tried to knock down segregation. The Negroes in Government are inefficient and today "bitterness and hatred such as we never knew a few years ago exist," he said.

Meanwhile, before the House Appropriations Committee, Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Veterans Administrator, said the lack of nurses and doctors was "the big difficulty" in operating VA facilities. However, he said, we're over the peak now and "everything will work out all right."

Calls It 'Attacks'

The Administrator told the Committee there was a "definite attack" on the VA in a recent *Cosmopolitan* article (by Maisel) and that "the basis was laid for it through PM." He added that the *Cosmopolitan* article was reprinted in *Reader's Digest* and that it hurt VA morale and destroyed confidence in its institutions. He said they got many letters from mothers "who accepted the statements at face value and were very distressed."

"Even if it were all true, it should not have been published in that manner," he concluded. "If there are deficiencies, they should be corrected, but that can be done without publicity so disturbing to those not in possession of the actual facts."

er of the office, students from the Atlanta University School of Social Work, will assist with interviews, Mr. Joseph Schabbes, instructor at the school, is assisting the staff in planning this joint service, which affords actual training for the students on such cases.

New Office To Serve Veterans

In announcing the opening of a new office, the Atlanta Veterans Advisory Center, 75 Cone Street, N. W., Major John Bell, who is in direct charge, stated that the purpose of the center is to assist the veterans to receive the rights which they are entitled to as veterans.

The office is jointly financed for both races by the mayor and city council of Atlanta, a board of commissioners and an advisory committee, with Mr. Carlyle Fraser as chairman.

The committee consists of 59 members who supervise and control the activities of the spacious, well-equipped offices which are open to the veterans of both races.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forrester B. Washington, president of the Atlanta University School of Social Work and L. D. Milton, president of the Citizens Trust Company, are members of the Advisory committee, which affords an opportunity for veterans to obtain the information from a well-trained and experienced staff in the interests of housing, education, loans, pension, legal matters, family problems and other benefits to which a veteran is entitled.

"Already," Major Bell stated, "57 veterans of both World War I and 11 have learned that this office offers the information a veteran needs to adjust himself as a civilian again."

In discussing the plans of the expansion of these services, Major Bell stated that the services differ from those offered by the Veterans Administration and that furthermore, under the direction of Mrs. W. S. Sullivan, social work-

er of the office, students from the Atlanta University School of Social Work, will assist with interviews, Mr. Joseph Schabbes, instructor at the school, is assisting the staff in planning this joint service, which affords actual training for the students on such cases.

CONSULTANT NAMED

Mrs. Lena D. Sayles, 1942 graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, has been named as Basic consultant with the Veterans Advisory Center. Other members will be added to the staff, according to the plans of Major Bell and the Advisory committee.

With the efficient service of this

staff, it is thought that many problems will be solved through this office.

Aside from the information and advice given through this office, a well-equipped cafeteria service will be offered.

Veterans of Atlanta and vicinity are asked to contact this office for assistance in order that they may receive the rights to which they are entitled.

Justice for Vets Urged by Dr. Mays

ATLANTA—The 1,000,000 colored Americans in the armed forces would be less than human if they did not want the ballot, equality of educational opportunity, justice in the courts, equal health, recreational facilities, and good housing conditions.

So declares Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president of Morehouse College, in an article, "Veterans: It Need Not Happen Again," in the current issue of *Phylon*, in which he offers a plan for amicable race adjustments in the post-war era.

Recalling that race tension at the close of World War I was due to America's failure to work out a program for returning soldiers, Dr. Mays calls upon high officials, newspapers, and the church to crusade now to avoid a recurrence.

Negro Youth Protest Treatment of Vets

Charge Lack Of Consideration Under GI Bill of Rights

By MILTON MURRAY
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—The problem of nearly 1,000,000 Negro servicemen and women and their return to their homes below the Mason-Dixon Line is coming to a boil today.

Some of the steam from the cauldron reached here in the form of protests to the Veterans' Administration by delegates of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Anxious observers have long watched "white supremacy" demagogues stoking the fires of racial hatred and dispute. They have watched the aid given by people who believe that nasty facts can be eliminated if only everyone will ignore them.

Non-Ignorable Facts

But the facts the Youth Congress delegates brought here were nasty and non-ignorable. They talked of these items:

¶ GI loans to start businesses are being denied Negroes.

¶ Educational opportunities under the GI Bill of Rights are being blocked for Negroes.

¶ Hospitalization for Negro veterans is limited to one Jim Crow hospital—Tuskegee—and only two emergency beds for Negroes are provided in Atlanta.

¶ Negroes are denied membership or limited to a class B membership in such organizations as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans, which purport to represent veterans and are accorded recognition by the Veterans' Administration.

Col. R. T. McDonnell, aid to Gen. Omar Bradley, Veterans' Administrator, heard the protests and discussed possible remedies.

Louis E. Burnham, organizational secretary of the

Negro Youth Congress listed as suggestions given Col. McDonnell:

¶ Fair administration of the GI Bill of Rights to improve the economic and social conditions in the South. As examples, Burnham believes that full use of the educational provisions would increase Negro collegiate population by 20 to 25 per cent, and housing could be improved if Southern Negroes were given an opportunity to get out of the shacks and hovels that the sharecrop economy has given them. Many are willing and able to operate their own businesses if given a hand in getting started.

Negress in VA

¶ Employment of Negro personnel in VA offices to assure informed and sympathetic handling of Negro veterans' problems.

¶ Liberation of educational and loan provisions of the GI Bill.

¶ Expansion of various guidance centers by utilizing community services and institutions, such as churches and YMCA.

¶ Elimination of hospital segregation and expansion facilities.

¶ VA opposition to the Jim Crow policy of veterans groups, using the power of VA to refuse office space and co-operation to organizations that continue discrimination.

Behind these proposals was an insistence that more than formal acknowledgment and perfunctory promises be given.

VA has a public policy of non-discrimination in hiring personnel. But examples are given of Negroes being told the only openings for them are as file clerks or similarly unimportant positions.

On the GI loans, it is pointed out, some new lending institution may be needed to assure a Southern Negro an opportunity to borrow if his local banker refuses to lend, even with a Government guarantee.

One case is cited where a Negro veteran who had learned shoe repairing in the Army was refused a loan to open a shoe repair shop by a small town banker whose

cousin ran the only repair shop in town.

Some of the delegates expressed grave concern that the boiling cauldron may explode in strife and violence. There are informed reports here of a new revival of Ku Klux Klan feeling in the South. An organization called the Sons of Dixie has been launched in Tennessee with much of the old Klan racist trappings and with new trimmings of anti-labor activity.

FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

OFFER AID TO EX-GI JOE

Education

Under the GI Bill of Rights a dischargee with 90 days or more in the service is entitled to a year's refresher or retraining course. If under 25 when he entered the service he is entitled to an amount of education equal to the actual time of his military career—up to a four-year maximum. The Veterans Administration puts up to \$500 a year toward his tuition, books, supplies, and similar expenses; it also provides a subsistence of \$50 a month for a single veteran, \$75 for a veteran with dependents. (The House has already passed a bill raising the subsistence from \$50 to \$60.)

Red tape is practically nonexistent in the dischargee's choice of schools and enrollment. He may apply to the VA, USES, or his draft board and get advice—but that's not necessary. He can go straight to any school that appeals to him or fits his needs—grammar, high, trade, business, or technical school, college or university, or even properly accredited foreign schools. He may want to learn to service vacuum cleaners, take calculus, become a theologian, or delve into Sanskrit—it's all one to the VA, as long as the school is state-accredited.

If discharged with a service-connected disability, a veteran is entitled to a disability pension of from \$11.50 a month for a 10 per cent disability to \$265 a month for total disability. He gets a pension for a non-service-connected disability only if he is disabled

to a permanent and total degree (50) a month).

Through the VA, a veteran may keep in force his eight-year national service life insurance by paying monthly premiums. This insurance, temporary and without loan or surrender value, may be converted at the end of the eight years into ordinary life, twenty-payment, or 30-payment insurance (no death clause).

Dependents' Benefits

If a veteran dies from a service-connected disability before discharge his widow, children, or dependents are entitled to a cash to the Negroes if they joined the Communist Party.

The grand dragon practices medicine in a downtown Atlanta office. He disclaimed prejudice against Jews, Negroes or other races.

QUICK ACTION SOUGHT

NEW YORK — Edward J. McHale, executive secretary

'WILL SERVE ALL VETS WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION,' GENERAL BRADLEY SAYS

NEW YORK—The appointment of Negroes to the policy-making staff of the Veterans Administration featured a discussion held in Washington last week between Gen. Omar Bradley and Julius A. Thomas, director of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League. The general indicated that consideration had been given to such appointments but that no final decision has been made. Declaring that he appreciated thoroughly many of the problems to be faced by Negro veterans, General Bradley stated: "It will be the policy of the Veterans Administration to serve all veterans without discrimination."

of the American Veterans

Committee, an organization of World War II servicemen and women, has requested the House Committee on Un-American Activities to investigate organizations purporting to represent the veterans of this war. In a letter to Representative John S. Wood, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Mr. McHale stated that:

"The Protestant War Veterans of the United States, headed by Edward J. Smythe, is violently anti-Catholic, anti-Semitic, and anti-Negro, and attempts to arouse religious prejudice and hatreds through name-calling and vulgar smear methods."

WAS ON DIES LIST

He added that in 1937 the organization was listed by the Dies' Committee as one of a group of organizations which included the Silver Shirts and German-American Bund.

Mr. McHale listed several organizations in his complaint and said activities of some of these groups warrant close attention and investigation. "Unless their true aims are exposed to public scrutiny, many servicemen may unwittingly fall prey at home to the same principles and forces they fought against abroad," Mr. McHale continued.

PROMISE BIG SUM

Mr. McHale also named the Servicemen's Reconstruction Plan, which he said is sponsored by the Christian Mobilizer leader, Joe McWilliams, and declared that its lure to attract veterans is the promise to get them mustering-out pay of \$7,800 apiece, which would be paid in Government Bonds out of the public treasury.

Other organizations on Mr. McHale's list include the Nationalist Veterans of World War II, the American Order of Patriots, the Sebastian Brigade and the Military Order of the Liberty Bell. The latter, he says, has "a limited membership which is anti-Negro and anti-foreign."

Negro, White Veterans Call On Bradley; Southern Bias Charged

10-25-45

Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— A delegation of Negro and white veterans of World War II, representing the Southern Negro Youth Congress, told the Veterans administration on Friday that discharged Negro soldiers in the south are being denied or discouraged from enjoying the benefits of the "GI Bill of Rights." They are voicing the views and feelings of more than a million Negro servicemen and women, the majority of whom came out of the south.

Say Business Loans Denied And

Home Purchase Grants Discouraged

Veterans' Surgeon General Promises Non-Segregation

Headed by Louis E. Burnham, organizational secretary, the group talked with Col. R. T. McDonnell, Veterans Administrator General Omar Bradley. The problems and complaints which they cited to Col. McDonnell were substantially these:

1. GI loans for business purposes are being denied Negroes. Small-town banks are being arbitrary in this respect, and actual cases of discriminatory treatment were identified.

HOME LOANS DISCOURAGED

2. GI loans for home purchases are being discouraged.

3. Negroes are not being permitted to obtain the educational opportunities allowed under the bill.

4. Apart from the limitation on hospital facilities for Negro veterans, objection was raised to the one jim-crow facility at Tuskegee institute.

MEMBERSHIP DENIED

The group complained also of the unwillingness, and in instances, downright refusal, of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans to accord full membership to Negro veterans. Because of this the delegates asked that VA curtail its recognition of these groups and deny them the office space they had begun enjoying close to national headquarters of VA.

A tendency on the part of the part of the south also to "put in their place" all returning Negro soldiers was pointed to as a certain cause for future unpleasantness if not violence.

They asked Col. McDonnell and

the administration to make possible the use of more Negroes in VA itself up and down the line of the organization, and to place them in field offices also.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — After a conference, October 25, with representatives of the National Negro Publishers' association, the NAACP and leading figures of the National Medical association, General Paul H. Hawley, assistant surgeon general and chief of staff of the hospital division of the Veterans' Administration, promised that he would personally visit "non-segregated institutions of the Veterans' Administration and proceed as rapidly as circumstances permitted to integrate Negroes into these institutions."

At the conference which General Hawley held were Dr. E. I. Robinson, president of the National Medical association of Los Angeles; Mrs. Mable K. Staupers, National Association of Negro Graduate Nurses; Carl Murphy, Louis Lautier and Roy Garvin of Negro National Publishers' association; Dr. A. C. Terrence, Opelousas, La.; Dr. L. H. B. Foote, Tallahassee, Fla.; Dr. Montague Cobb and Dr. Charles Prudhomme of Howard university; Jesse Redmon, Jr., and Walter White of the NAACP.

General Hawley, obviously impressed by the united opposition to segregated facilities in the Veterans' Administration, promised that he would make a "personal visit to non-segregated facilities and would proceed as rapidly as circumstances permitted" to integrate Negroes in non-segregated institutions.

Among the topics discussed in the one hour conference was the appointment of guardians for incompetent Negro veterans.

The Army Blue Discharge Certificate

In many quarters the large number of Blue Certificates issued already, and being issued by the Army is regarded as being about to approach a National Scandal and their issuance is beginning to arouse increasing concern among soldiers not yet discharged as well as among their relatives and friends, and soldiers who now have Blue Discharge Certificates are finding that it is as respects certain benefits to which all soldiers are ordinarily entitled to a veritable mill-stone about their necks.

While not regarded as a dishonorable discharge which, in itself, robs its recipient of all the benefits provided for the soldier and his dependents, a ruling by the Adjutant-General department has made it possible for the Local Veterans Administration to determine in the case of a soldier having a Blue Discharge whether or not he should be allowed to receive the benefits provided by law for discharged Veterans, disabled Veterans, and their dependents. The ruling of the Veterans Administration being very rarely in favor of the Veteran.

In a number of cases, soldiers not realizing the handicaps under which they were being placed have agreed to accept Blue Discharges in order to get out of the Army quickly. In a large number of cases already noted by Veterans' Organizations and others interested in seeing that the Veterans get a square deal, it has been found that Blue Discharges have been issued by the Army under circumstances contrary to the consent of the Veteran, who has nothing against his record that would cause him to receive a dishonorable discharge has at the same time upon receiving the Blue Discharge Certificate, been placed in the same class as one who is given a Dishonorable Discharge.

The practice of giving the Blue Discharge Certificate has in no way been altogether confined to Negro Soldiers, although there is said to be evidence accumulating to the affect that Negro Soldiers are getting proportionately more and more Blue Discharge Certificates as the ratio of discharges increase.

In at least one case coming to our attention here a soldier was given a Blue Discharge Certificate upon Discharge with the issuing officer giving him the "Address of a Place" to write in Washington in order to get changed after he had arrived at his home. In this case the soldier had no AWOL or any other violation of Military Regulations during his stay in the Army. Upon being discharged he was denied Mustering Out Pay, and under the ruling of the Veterans Administration can be denied the benefits of the G-I Bill, Hospitalization, Rehabilitation, or any other benefits supposed to accrue from his service.

One way to the soldiers yet in the Army and expecting and hoping for an early discharge is to write and tell them about the distress in which holders of Blue Discharge Certificates are being placed advising them to do everything to avoid accepting or being given a Blue Discharge Certificate.

Full Integration Urged

Halt Bias in Veteran Setup, NAACP Tells General Bradley

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
9-29-45

WASHINGTON—Non-segregated veterans' hospitals, full use of qualified Negro doctors, nurses, specialists and administrative personnel in veterans' hospitals and facilities, inclusion of qualified Negroes in whatever division is set up to investigate complaints, use of qualified Negroes in all administrative and clerical departments of the Veterans Administration itself, and reiteration of the NAACP's recommendation first made to President Roosevelt in 1944 that a qualified Negro be appointed at the policy-making and policy-executing level were the recommendations submitted here last week to Gen. Omar Bradley by Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, Jesse O. Dedmon, veterans' secretary, and Judge William H. Hastie, chairman of the association's legal committee.

DISCUSS PROBLEMS

The association's representatives discussed at length with General Bradley the special problems and difficulties Negro veterans face, particularly in the light of employment cutbacks. General Bradley, with whom Mr. White had worked in the European Theatre of Operations, expressed deep concern regarding the elimination of discrimination against veterans. He stated, however, that certain Negro doctors were urging him to establish all-Negro hospitals in order that they might have opportunity to work in them.

The association's representatives assured General Bradley that many Negro doctors do not favor segregated hospitals and that he had obviously heard only from those who for personal or other reasons want segregated hospitals established. General Bradley was informed that if the Negro doctors who are opposed to segregation knew of the representations which had been made to him by doctors who favored separate facilities for Negroes, the opposition would be exceedingly vocal and widespread.

EXPERIMENT URGED

General Bradley informed the delegation that he and Maj. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, who is in charge of veterans' hospitals, are familiar with the experience in the European Theatre of Operations where non-segregation had worked out favorably and without difficulty. He expressed concern, however, as to whether or not the South had progressed to the point where non-segregated hospitals could be successfully maintained there. The NAACP representatives urged that the experiment be tried and pointed out that considerable progress had been made during the war towards integration which was less expensive and more efficient than the maintenance of dual systems of hospitals.

It was pointed out to General Bradley that at present there are approximately 6,000 Negroes em-

ployed in the Veterans Administration but that about 5,700 of them are employed as janitors and messengers; that there are only about 300 in clerical positions and they are segregated in two sub-basements of the Veterans Administration Building. It was also pointed out that there are only three persons above the clerical rank and these serve as investigators and adjudicators. General Bradley expressed himself as being determined to utilize Negroes and all other Americans irrespective of race, creed or color and emphatically asserted that "any employee in the Veterans' Administration can, by faithful and competent service, rise to any position, in the Veterans Administration, including my own."

The association's representatives pointed out that the only manner in which qualified Negroes could prove their competence would be by giving them opportunity to demonstrate it in other than janitorial and minor clerical positions. General Bradley expressed agreement with this point of view.

NAACP URGES GEN. BRADLEY TO FULLY INTEGRATE NEGROES IN VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Washington, Sept. 26.—Non-segregated veterans' hospitals, full use of qualified Negro doctors, hospitals and that he had obviously heard only from those who for personal or other reasons want segregation hospitals established. General Bradley was informed that if the Negro doctors who are opposed to segregation knew of the representations which had been made to him by doctors who favored separate facilities for Negroes, the opposition would be exceedingly vocal and widespread.

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Vets, Small Businessmen Can Buy Surplus Property

9-22-45
By LEROY CRAYTON

Chairman, Committee on Business Development of the Negro Business League

Selling the swords and spears of war for use as the plowshares and pruning hooks of peace will be a big business—one running into billions of dollars.

This property will not be dumped on the market as it was after World War I, but will be disposed of in such a way as to give maximum aid to the re-establishment of peace-time economy through regular commercial channels.

The following questions and answers will help to acquaint you with this operation:

Who is eligible to purchase surplus property?

Federal, State and local governmental agencies have the first opportunity to buy surplus property, then the general public.

Can a businessman buy any of this property he wants?

No. For example, a man in the hardware business could not buy surgical supplies. He can buy only such items as are regularly sold in his type of business.

How can an ex-service man who is not in business, but who desires to open a business, benefit from the sale of surplus property?

Through the Small War Plant Corporation veterans can purchase surplus property to set themselves up and help maintain themselves in business. Physicians who were called to the service before they began practicing would do well to inquire about surplus surgical equipment, supplies, and office furniture.

What general type of goods are available?

Automotive products, hardware, furniture, textiles, wearing apparel, construction equipment, farm machinery, office furniture and supplies, household appliances, medical and surgical supplies, and others, ranging from mechanical cows to cosmetics.

Is it not true that most of this surplus property is bought up by large business firms?

No. Special consideration was given to the small businessman by Congress in the setting up of the surplus property disposal act. The record for the first quarter of 1945 reveals that out of 25,583 sales executed, 17,453 were for \$500 or less.

What businesses do we have that can qualify and benefit most by purchasing surplus property?

Drugstores, hardware, furniture, electrical appliances, grocery stores, dry goods, filling stations, garages, taxi companies, trucking companies, hotels, and farms.

In Georgia

Sharecroppers Can't Get Veterans' Allowance

Pittsburgh Courier, 10-6-45
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA—(ANP)—According to a recent decision by the Veterans Administration, "sharecroppers" are employed but not self-employed and are not eligible for readjustment allowances, Ben T. Huie, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Labor revealed last week.

Huie stated that in the first appeal of its type, a veteran of World War II, who was a sharecropper tending ten acres of land in Mississippi was denied benefits by the Veterans Administration and that the decision may have a far-reaching effect on veterans' self-employed claims filed by sharecroppers in the various States.

STRICT RULING

The administrator, in making his decision, held that in order to be eligible for self-employment allowances, a veteran must be fully engaged in self-employment in an independent establishment, trade, business or other vocation during the month for which he claims allowances. *10-6-45*

In the case of the Mississippi veteran it was shown that he was merely tending the land while the landlord furnished the land, all the stock and tools. The landlord also kept the stock and it was fed by him. The veteran did furnish half the fertilizer which was charged against the account at settlement time.

Repudiates All-Negro Veterans Facilities

The Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
10-6-45

NEW YORK — "The National Medical Association is definitely opposed to establishment of segregated veterans facilities," Dr. E. I. Robinson of Los Angeles, president of the National Medical Association, Inc., telegraphed the NAACP in response to an inquiry made of the National Medical Association president following General Omar Bradley's statement that certain Negro doctors had been urging him to set up separate hospitals for Negro veterans.

"Any minority group of Negro doctors desiring segregated veterans facilities are not known to the National Medical Association and certainly expresses a very small minority opinion requesting segregated veterans hospitals," Dr. Robinson's telegram declared.

WANT CONFERENCE WITH BRADLEY

"I cannot envision any member of our national organization making any such request. I wish that the Veterans' Committee of the National Medical Association could have a conference with Gen. Omar Bradley. I am writing the chairman of committee to make appointment. The National Medical Association is 100 per cent with the NAACP in its fight against segregated veterans facilities."

Walter White, NAACP secretary, has telegraphed Dr. Robinson offering whatever aid the NAACP can give in arranging an appointment with General Bradley, Administrator of the Veterans Administration, and suggesting that a joint conference of the NMA and NAACP with General Bradley be held to demonstrate the unity of thoughtful and intelligent Negro opinion against the segregation of Negro veterans in American hospitals after they have been injured in fighting for democracy overseas.

Negro Columnist Compares Ver Policy in USSR With Bias Here

The Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—The help given veterans in the Soviet Union is contrasted with the treatment of Negro vets in the United States, in the latest issue of the *Chicago Defender*, Negro weekly. The comparison is made by L. C. Harper, *Defender* columnist. *10-16-45*

The Soviet Union, Harper noted, "is free of color prejudice and by legislation forbids the organization of hate-breeding groups" adding that he was shocked that there are still voices in this country who do not "class it as a democracy."

The columnist goes on: "Thus we discover again that Russia, while not sailing under the banner of Christianity, has deep-seated brotherhood; whereas America, which is actually polluted with all types and fashions of Christianity, has little of the tinge of brotherhood."

"So, unlike the Russian soldier of many hues, the black American warrior returns home to find that he has to fight the harder against the 'war of color' that is designed to keep him in a sub-human status, even to the point of begging for a job—just any kind of job."

"A Negro civilian can be shaped into a soldier by the manual of arms and a drillmaster, but no manual has ever been written for changing him back into a civilian with decent, gainful employment. This Emancipation has yet to be drafted."

Disabled Vets Organize

ORANGEBURG, S. C.—(ANP)—The first chapter of disabled Negro veterans was organized here at S. C. State college Sunday as an affiliate of Disabled American Veterans. *Chicago Ill. 11-12-44*

The Jungleers, a band attached to the 299th Army Ground Force, fulfilling a promise made to the Seventy-seventh Division in the Pacific. *The New York Times*

The all-Negro "Jungleers" band of the 299th Army Ground Force, recently returned from the Pacific combat area, kept yesterday, in front of the City Hall steps, a promise made to the New York boys of the Seventy-seventh Division before the thirty-five musicians started their trip back to the United States. *10-14-45*

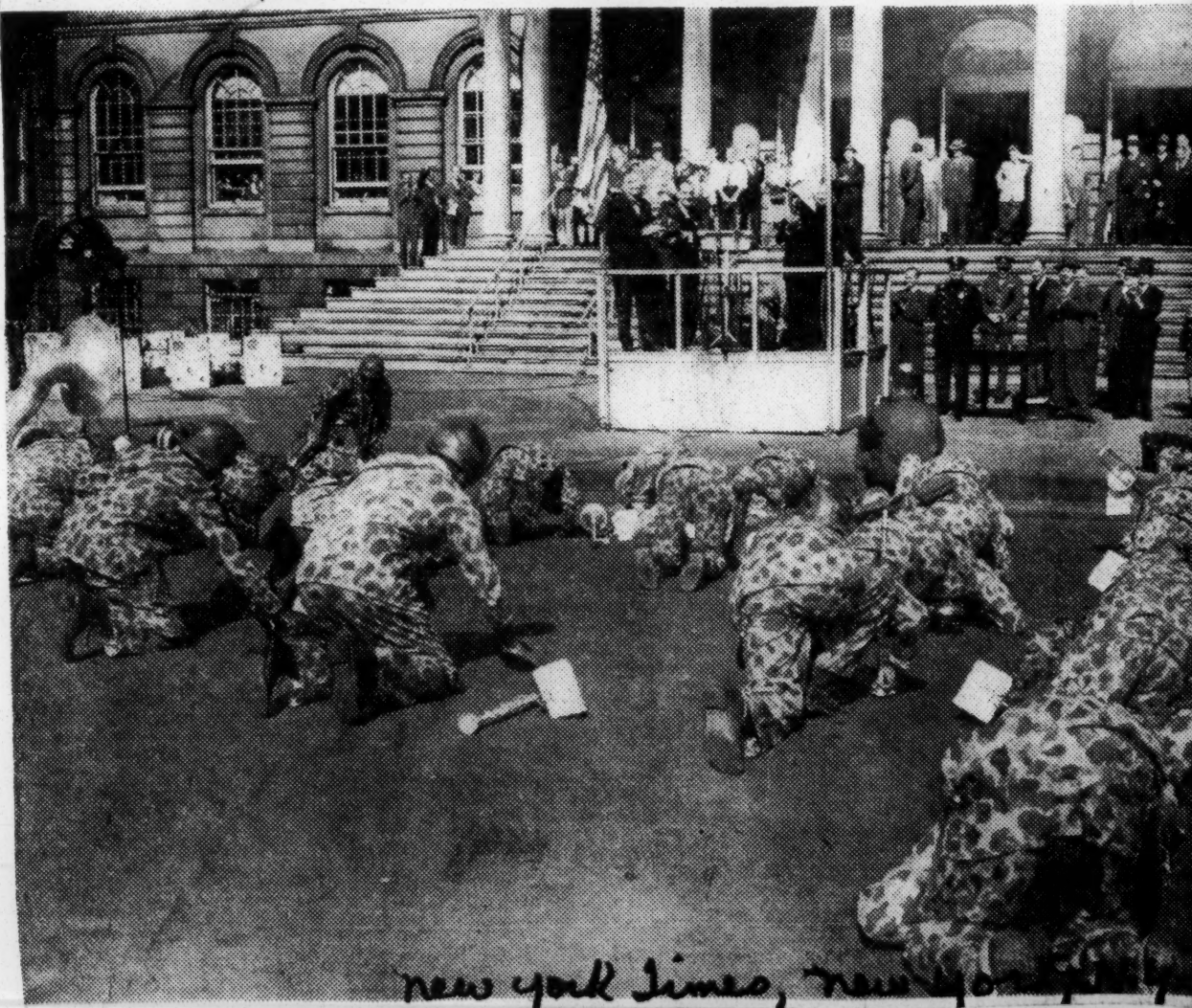
Clad in their camouflaged jungle uniforms, the members of the band knelt and kissed the pavement in front of the steps as Mayor La Guardia looked on. Then, as the Mayor tapped a foot in time to the music, the band serenaded him with a brief "jive" concert.

Capt. Sol Friedman of Yonkers, who gaye a camouflaged jungle suit to the Mayor, said that a simi-

lar ceremony took place at the City Hall in San Francisco on Oct. 10 in fulfillment of a promise made to men from that city serving in Pacific combat areas where the men entertained the troops.

"I'm happy to receive this camouflaged suit," the Mayor said. "It will come in handy because, as you may have heard, I am going into the jungles pretty soon."

KISSING THE 'GOOD EARTH' AT CITY HALL



Heroes' Club Blackballs Wounded Negro Veteran

Discharged GI Advised to Start a Jim Crow Organization

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 11. — "Dear Patriot Dinkins" is not wanted as member of the Mt. Vernon Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart—because his skin is black.

On Oct. 25, 1944, Pvt. Samuel H. Dinkins, U. S. Army Transportation Corps, was in the thick of the fight at Leyte in the Philippines. His skin was black, too, since the Pvt. Dinkins of a year ago and the "Patriot Dinkins" of today are the same person.

The jeep he was driving hit a Jap land mine. One of the two soldier companions in the jeep was killed, the second blinded; and Dinkins suffered cuts about his head and body and severe shock.

Pvt. Dinkins was awarded the Order of the Purple Heart and flown back to this country for treatment. He was discharged on March 3 with a 70 per cent nervous-disability rating for purposes of pension.

Sends in Money

Back home in Washington, Dinkins set about trying to find another job—he had been a War Dept. clerk before induction. At the Veterans Administration offices here he talked over his problems with George Holland, a VA Negro employee, who suggested that Dinkins might like to join the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The purpose of that organization is to look out after the interests of heroes of this war who were hurt in action.

Holland said he would make the arrangements. In a few days Dinkins received in the mail a letter from the national office here of the Military Order of the Purple Heart with a membership application blank. The letter explained that, if he lived permanently in Washington, he might want to become a member of the organization's chapter here, the Mt. Vernon Chapter. The annual dues in that chapter would be \$5. Otherwise he could become a member-at-large for \$2

annual dues. Dinkins filled in the application and sent it along with a \$5 money order to the national office.

Official Welcome

The national office promptly advised Dinkins that the application and money order had been forwarded to Maj. Wilbur E. Dove, adjutant of the Mt. Vernon Chapter.

"I am sure he will send you the 1945 card within the next few days," said the letter from William B. Eaton, national adjutant. "I wish to take this opportunity to officially welcome you as an active member in our Order and I am sure you will enjoy our membership."

The letter from Eaton was dated June 12. On July 7, a letter from the Mt. Vernon chapter came. Attached to it was Dinkins' money order.

"When I saw your application with name and address," wrote Adjutant Dove, "I felt sure that you were a COLORED (caps are letter writer's) vet and therefore NOT eligible to membership in the Mt. Vernon Chapter, because it was thought best not to try to mix white and colored P. H. veterans in the same outfit."

"The policy of the M. O. P. H., as I understand it, is to have separate chapters, one for white and one for colored. In other words, colored holders of the Purple Heart medal should organize a chapter of their own within the M. O. P. H. organization."

He closed by suggesting that Dinkins "contact some other colored men who would be interested in . . . organizing a chapter of your own" in the District.

Instead, Dinkins took his letters to the Washington office of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). Leslie Sperry, head of the Washington office, read the letters from the Military Order of the Purple Heart and then wrote them a letter in which he said in part:

NAACP's Reply

"I note with considerable interest that your organization uses the term of 'patriot' when addressing holders of the Purple Heart.

"Patriot" is defined by Webster's dictionary as 'one who loves

Veterans

his country and zealously supports its authority and interest."

"I am just wondering if your organization believes that it is showing love of country or furthering the interests of the United States when it discriminates against holders of the Purple Heart solely because of their race and color."

"Pvt. Dinkins received wounds in the field of battle in defense of his country. I rather doubt that, as he risked his life, he was thinking of protecting only Negroes or any other segment of the population. I rather believe that he was fighting to preserve America as a whole."

"Any suggestion, therefore, that as a candidate for membership in the Military Order of the Purple Heart he must first organize an all-Negro chapter must strike him and others wounded on the battlefield as the epitome of irony."

Chicago Defender

WHITE VETS BACK NEGROES SOUTHERNER

DECLARED. Chicago Defender 7-14-45

COLUMBIA, S.C. — "If the white people of the south do not accord the Negro his full justice immediately, when we white soldiers come back we are going to do it. This was the advice of a white veteran of the European theater from Spartanburg S.C., to the executive committee of the South Carolina Interracial commission which met here last week. Chi., Ill.

The young soldier told the body that "thousands of young white men like me—many from the South—have fought and died with Negro soldiers in Europe, and we are determined that the Negro shall have his full rights as a citizen."

The war was caused, the veteran said, because of racial segregation, discrimination and prejudice. "These things defeated Germany," he continued. "They are defeating us here. Many thousands of young white men have seen Negro soldiers fight and die, have come to know that the Negro is just as competent and deserving as white men. These men are determined to help the Negro get his justice and are agreed that it is the first job to be undertaken after Japan is defeated."

Rhode Island VFW Elects Chaplain

By Associated Negro Press
PROVIDENCE, R. I. — The Rev. Paris V. Sterrett, veteran of overseas service with the 385th engineers in the Italian campaign, was elected this week chaplain of the department of Rhode Island Veterans of Foreign Wars, marking the first time a colored veteran has been elected a state officer of this organization.

Chaplain Sterrett's latest honor follows his recent appointment to the national speakers' bureau of the Veterans of Foreign Wars as the Rhode Island representative.

The election of the Providence minister to the important state

Chi. Del.

post came as the climax of weeks of intensive campaigning by officers and members of the Eugene Perry Post No. 332, V. F. W.

ALEXANDRIA, VA.
GAZETTE
CR. D. 6,241

AUG 10 1945

Negroes Plan For Post-war

Displaying foresight for post-war rehabilitation, George Remick, Veteran Employment Representative for the War Manpower Commission in Alexandria, in cooperation with the local Colored American Legion posts, has sponsored a meeting of all Colored veterans in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax County, and Prince William County for the purpose of clarifying veterans' rights.

The meeting, to be held on September 10, 8:30 in the evening, at the Colored USO Club rooms, 1005 Pendleton Street, will be attended by representatives of the Veterans Administration in Washington, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and other qualified individuals who will supply information and take up individual problems of the veterans present, announced Lowell F. Rainey, Director of the Alexandria U.S.E.S.

Rainey also said that some of the subjects considered for discussion at the open meeting are: How to obtain training on the job; continuation of education; widows' pensions; how to find a job; how to obtain a loan; and where to go to obtain assistance in their matters.

Rainey said that further details concerning the meeting will be announced at a later date.

Negroes Form Group To Advise Veterans

A committee of Negro ministers to counsel discharged soldiers was formed yesterday after a meeting at the Chestnut Street U.S.O. under sponsorship of the religion committee of the Y.M.C.A. The Rev. Raymond L. Jones, pastor of Broadway Temple, was named chairman of the group.

The Rev. William E. Hogan, New York, religious consultant of the Y.M.C.A., outlined consulting programs set up in other cities, and officers from Godman Field introduced problems that confront Negro soldiers returning to civilian life. Thirty ministers attended the meeting.

Veterans Offered Chance to Learn Skilled Trades

Baltimore Md.
Afro-American
WASHINGTON

Young veterans are being offered a chance to become skilled artisans, it was announced this week by Ernest V. Connolly, area director of the War Manpower Commission.

The Lewis A. Johnston Construction Company, 1100 Irving St., N.W., has been named by the WMC as an apprentice training center for colored veterans and civilians as well, it was disclosed.

Paid While Learning

Under the G.I. Bill of Rights single veterans wishing to enroll as apprentices will be paid \$50 monthly by the Government and married veterans \$75.

In addition a minimum of 60 cents an hour will be paid by the company to beginners for a 40-hour week with time-and-a-half for overtime.

Apprenticeships offered and the time necessary for their completion are:

Bricklaying, three years; cabinet making, four years; carpenters, four years; cement finishers, two years; construction electricians, four years; glaziers, three years; painters and paperhangers, three years; plasterers, four years; sheet metal workers, four years; and steamfitters, five years.

Will Get Certificate

At the completion of the training program apprentices will be qualified as journeymen-craftsmen and awarded a certificate by the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship.

Further information on the Federal Apprentice Training Service may be obtained from Gino J. Simi, wounded during three years' service overseas, is commander. The league announcement said posts already have been formed in Savannah, Macon, Lithonia, Cordele and Moultrie.

chritis while in service, in this country.

The Negro Soldier

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

Now that the deadliest and most gruesome war the world has ever known has come to a close, it seems that more than ever before, people of every race and nation, however powerful or oppressed, should revert to the practice of Christian principles. Nothing will give greater security to the peace plans that are now being written.

Among the millions of returning soldiers, many thousands will be Negroes from all the battlefronts, some wearing decorations, some bringing back scars that will go with them to the grave. Many will not come back. Unlike World War I, in which I served, Negroes today are in nearly every branch of the Army, and we have little reason to doubt that out of the experiences and training they will emerge disciplined and well-rounded men, the type any country could be proud of. When right and justice become an issue, few other men will have as much at stake as the American Negro soldier as he turns back to civil life.

Richmond, Ky.

LUTHER TODD.

Negro Veterans Form League

Organization of the Georgia Veterans League, Inc., to promote the interests of Negro veterans, was announced Monday.

Charles Milton, owner of an Atlanta barber shop, who was wounded during three years' service overseas, is commander. The league announcement said posts already have been formed in Savannah, Macon, Lithonia, Cordele and Moultrie.

Milton was quoted in the announcement as saying he had found some Negro servicemen were receiving "blue" discharges from the Army because they were disliked by their white commanding officers and that he "intends to expose and fight this practice."

The league statement also said adequate hospital facilities for Negro veterans were sought. It charged that Hospital No. 48 in Atlanta discriminated by placing Negro veterans in the basement without proper sanitary facilities and that the Veterans Hospital for Negroes in Tuskegee, Ala., was overcrowded and carried applicants on a waiting list for six months.

Negro Veterans' Guidance Center Opened at A. & M.

Orangeburg, Sept. 10—S. C. Groeschel, manager of the Veterans hospital, Columbia, announced the opening of a guidance center for Negro World War II veterans at State Agricultural and Mechanical college here, in the mechanical building on the campus.

The purpose of the center is to bring the best possible service to such veterans in the most expeditious manner, particularly in giving complete vocational advisement and induction into training in the shortest possible time to all those veterans found entitled to vocational training under Public Law 16, 78th Congress. Applicants for educational or training benefits under the G. I. Bill of Rights may be given educational and vocational guidance at the center in the selection of their courses of instruction if they so request.

The dominant interest of the Veterans Administration in establishing a guidance center at State Agricultural and Mechanical college is to render expedited and satisfactory service to Negro veterans in connection with its educational and training programs. Further information concerning such programs will be provided upon request to the manager, veterans Administration, Columbia, South Carolina. Similar centers for white World War II veterans have been established at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Ask for Negro on Veterans' Policy-Making Staff Here

The appointment of Negroes to the policy-making staff of the Veterans' Administration featured a discussion held in Washington last week between General Omar Bradley and Julius A. Thomas, director of industrial relations of the National Urban League.

The General indicated that consideration had been given to such appointments, but that no final decision has been made.

Declaring that he appreciated thoroughly many of the problems to be faced by Negro veterans, General Bradley stated: "It will be the policy of the Veterans' Administration to serve all veterans without discrimination." He said that Negroes are now employed in the Veterans' Administration, and that others would be employed as the program expands.

Expand Education

In referring to the training re-

The availability of good-paying jobs before V-J Day is thought to be largely responsible for this situation, for the number of applications for scholarship aid is steadily increasing.

In commenting on the conference, Thomas said that the Urban League is preparing additional information about the problems of Negro veterans to be presented to General Bradley.

The appointment of a competent assistant to the administrator, the assignment of Negroes to positions at the policy-making level, and the adoption of policies to prevent widespread discrimination against Negro veterans are among the recommendations to be submitted.

Open First Negro VFW Post In Dixie

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP) — Birmingham last week became the first southern city to legally establish a Negro post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Archie Williams, founder, announced.

The new post is named the Julius Ellsberry post, in honor of the Birmingham sailor who was the first citizen from Jefferson county to give his life for his country in World War II.

Joe Donaburg, state commander of the VFW, E. C. Spangenberg, state chaplain, and George D. Kelley, past commander, officially awarded the post charter with inspiring ceremonies.

Archie Williams, founder, was elected honorary member and state service officer.

Mr. Williams announced that the post will launch a "500 members by Christmas" drive. Office of the post is located at 625 Masonic Temple. Every new member must become a qualified voter, Mr. Williams said.

ceived by Negroes in the armed forces, General Bradley emphasized the importance of obtaining employment for them which would provide the opportunity to use these newly-acquired skills.

Admitting that he had not had sufficient time to become thoroughly familiar with all phases of the problem, General Bradley expressed the hope that many more Negro veterans would take advantage of the opportunity to continue their education and improve their skills.

According to recent reports only a fraction of the veterans eligible for educational assistance have applied for it.

HARLEM DAV POST ELECTS New York (N.Y.) Times Its Head Is First Negro Veteran of This War in Such Place

George A. Martin of 280 Manhattan Avenue is the first Negro veteran of the second World War to be elected commander of a post of the Disabled American Veterans in New York State, it was announced yesterday by the National Service Fund of the organization. Mr. Martin has been chosen commander of Harlem Chapter No. 3.

The name of the chapter has been changed to the Dorie Miller Post in honor of Dorie Miller, Negro Messman First Class, who received the Navy Cross from the late President Roosevelt for his prompt and expert manning of a machine gun on the battleship Arizona in the Pearl Harbor attack. Mr. Martin was disabled by

JUN 6 1945

For A Better Lubbock

The Negro Veteran Needs Help

CONGRESS has passed a bill which gives veterans certain rights, one of which is the partial guarantee of loans for the building, or the purchasing, of homes. Every veteran, who has served ninety days since September, 1940, in the armed forces, and who has an honorable discharge, is entitled, under proper conditions, to a maximum guarantee of \$2,000.

There are certain conditions in securing a loan which must be met before the Veterans' administration can approve a loan:

1. The appraised value must be as much, or exceed the purchase price.
2. The veteran must have a job, or the assurance of a job, with sufficient compensation from which to pay his loan.

It is wise to point out that a GI loan is a loan and not a gift from the government. The interest rate, however, is four per cent and the government pays the interest of the guaranteed part for the first year.

These are definite privileges not granted in loans to the average citizen.

The discharged negro GI who returns to Lubbock is having difficulty in securing a home loan.

The principal cause of this difficulty is the appraised value.

The negro residential district of Lubbock has no orderly form of home building. A \$100 shack may be built next to a \$3,000 or \$4,000 home. If the negroes here would establish a restricted residential area, loans could be secured. This area would not necessarily have to be twenty or thirty acres, but two or three blocks would suffice.

The things which definitely affect the appraised value of property are as follows:

1. Restrictions. Uniformity of homes as to price and size.
2. Design and livability.
3. Sufficient lot area to provide landscaping and play area.
4. Encroachment of undesirable industry which would cause annoyance to the neighborhood.
5. Convenience to school, shopping center, churches, play grounds, and bus lines.
6. Availability of utilities.

The loan companies which are asked to make these loans must take a substantial

Veterans

part of the risk. The maximum federal guarantee is \$2,000. Of course if the loan is less than \$4,000 the guarantee is 50 per cent of that amount.

If a veteran is able to get any loan at all, he can secure enough to purchase the property. The appraisal is the prime factor in determining the approval of a loan. The veteran should understand, therefore, why it is so important that he build his home in a restricted area, meeting the conditions which lend to value, in order to secure a loan.

It is the duty of the appraiser to protect the veteran against unscrupulous contractors or sellers, and to protect the Veterans' administration and the lending institution against over-valuation.

We present this picture of the plight of the discharged negro veteran in Lubbock at the suggestion of Knox Thomas, executive vice-president of the First Federal Building and Loan because we, like Mr. Thomas, believe Lubbock's negro veterans should have the same opportunities their colored comrades have everywhere in the United States.

We suggest that such outstanding negroes as Dr. Joe Chatman, Dr. Clarence Lyons, Ed Struggs and Perry Jackson call other local leaders of their race into conference and begin to take whatever steps necessary to correct the situation. Success in such action would not only be of service to returning negro service men, but also will result in improved living conditions in Carver Heights.

Policy-Making Jobs Asked
of Veterans' Administration

WASHINGTON 5,000 are rated above clerk, they charged that only six or seven receiving salaries above \$2,000 and placed in top policy-making jobs in the U.S. Veterans' Administration. A letter was sent to Gen. Frank T. Hines, administrator of the agency, this week.

To insure colored veterans and their dependents fair treatment and qualified citizens equal opportunity for employment and advancement, the immediate appointment of colored persons in each office and institution under the agency's jurisdiction was urged.

Sending of the statement asking fair treatment of colored veterans was announced by the National Non-Partisan Council of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, whose legal representative, Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson, was one of the signers. After declaring that employment should be on an integrated basis, the leaders recommended that there be no discrimination in the administration of or in the treatment of patients in any Federal-administered hospital.

Other signers were Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Dr. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology, Howard University; and the Rev. William H. Jernagin, director of the Washington Bureau of the Fraternal Council of Churches.

Only 6 Above Clerk

Pointing out that only about six colored employees of the agency's

the week
Baltimore
Army Education
md.

Fisherman's Luck

By W. I. GIBSON

A news item which may have escaped the attention of some readers of the daily press concerns the opening on July 9 of the first university center of the Army's extensive education program for troops overseas.

This center, located at the University of Florence, Italy, opened with an enrollment of 1,320 students, including enlisted men, officers, Wacs and nurses, and is headed by Brig. Gen. Foster J. Tate, former divisional artillery commander of the 34th Infantry Division of the Fifth Army.

The faculty at the Florence center consists of 93 officers and enlisted men and women, white and colored. This is indeed a forward step and it appears that the Army is taking steps to counteract some of the criticism which has recently come its way concerning the alleged anti-Semitic content of some of its extension English courses.

Students must select three courses and one hour of physical education a day for a full five-day week. Most popular courses are business administration, social science, languages, English, journalism and mathematics, in that

order.

All students completing work will be recommended for credit with civilian schools of their choice in the U.S. Qualified soldiers, Wacs and officers will be permitted to attend civilian institutions such as Oxford, the Sorbonne, the University of Milan for technical training and the University of Padua and the College of St. Cecilia for art and music.

Attendance at regular courses at these institutions will be preceded by a series of 14-day refresher courses on subjects of particular interest in relation to the countries in which the institutions are located.

Here is some compensation, at least, for soldiers who find themselves "stuck" with a European assignment.

Fisherman's Luck

A true disciple of Izaak Walton, said, must be endowed with patience in abundance.

I can never hope to qualify as "The Compleat Angler," but I had high hopes the past week-end, along with four cronies of mine, to indulge in a bit of piscatorial pastime in the waters of the Choptank River.

For weeks, we had looked forward to this excursion to the haunts of the finny tribe. Rods, reels and handlines had been overhauled with loving care and a variety of tempting bait—to say nothing of tasty lunches—had been carefully packed for the occasion.

We even checked closely (or so we thought) concerning tides and weather and though the skies were a bit overcast as we pulled out for our destination, we had every assurance that Old Sol would be out in full strength by the time we reached the fishing grounds.

But such was not to be. The rains came. Not only did they come, but they remained the entire day and far into the night. The skipper of the open-topped bugeye, which we normally use, would not budge from the dock despite our assurance that we didn't mind a thorough drenching.

There was little left to do but to eat our lunches and to gripe about the weather. Someone struck up "Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall," but it didn't sound nearly as tuneful as when the Inkspots toy with it.

Usually a fisherman, at least, has the opportunity to tell, with expanding gestures, of the ones that got away even if he doesn't have much to show for his efforts. But when one is denied the chance of having just a minnow to get away, there is little to console him.

Such, I suppose, is fisherman's

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Notes at Random

Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, Democrat, who has received, according to reports, the backing of Governor Thomas E. Dewey, in the New York City mayoralty race, is the same Judge Goldstein who re-signed from the American Bar Association when that body denied membership to Judge Francis E. Rivers.

A new law requiring all illiterate Ecuadorians between 16 and 50 to learn to read and do elementary arithmetic, is now in effect, with a fine of from 40 cents to \$12 for those who fail.

The National Union of Newspapermen has been given the duty of enforcement. What a pity barons of Dixie and of Germany, tried earnestly to attend to all

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Blind Veterans Organize to Solve Special Problems

afro - American
Association, 20 P.C. Colored, to Prepare
Baltimore
All Service Men for Normal Lives as Civilians

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK — Describing their organization as one designed to handle peculiar problems of blinded war veterans, officials of the Blinded Veterans' Association discussed their gains and goals during a press conference at the Hotel Royalton on June 25.

Organized by service men of this war for their mutual welfare after their discharge from service, the association, the first of its kind in this country's history, has approximately 1100 members, 20% of whom are colored, they pointed out.

Baynard Kendrick, white, honorary chairman of the organization's board of directors, told the AFRO that membership is open to all blinded veterans of all wars — regardless of race, creed or color.

Prejudice Blotted Out

Author and creator of Capt. Duncan McLane, a blind character, Mr. Kendrick said, "These boys who have lost their sight in war don't know the meaning of race or prejudice. Their blindness has blotted out all prejudices.

"Our aims are to educate the world as to the things blind people can do. They can't all be considered as a class or a group. Some will wind up begging on the subway steps, and others will go on to become heads of retail establishments or business corporations."

Colored Vets Hold Offices

There are several colored veterans on the welfare committee of the association. Included among them are Lt. Vasco Hale and Pfc. Gail Guyder, both of whom were blinded in the States.

One of the worst casualties of this war, Lieutenant Hale was injured on the California desert, while on maneuvers, by a land mine and, in addition to losing his sight, lost four fingers on his left hand and his entire right arm.

There are many other colored men who were blinded in action overseas and who have joined the association to evade some of the red tape presented by the Veterans Administration and other governmental bureaus.

Instructors Especially Trained

Temporary headquarters of the association, Old Farms Hospital in Farmington, Conn., offers Army veterans 18 weeks of training under instructors trained in veterans' problems and their needs in the world as civilians.

There is a colored instructor at Old Farms, Sgt. Archie Long, who although not blind himself, teaches the men Braille and also gives courses in journalism. It is said that he is one of the best-liked men there.

At present, blinded Army veterans are sent to Dibble Hospital at Phoenixville, Pa., while blind sailors and marines go to Philadelphia Naval Hospital.

To Prepare for Business

Mr. Kendrick stressed the fact that the aims of the association, which has been in existence only since last March, will be to help the veterans enter fields of employment they like.

"We are going to aid the blind to open their own business if they want to," explained Mr. Kendrick, "and do lots of research in employment fields where blind people never worked before to see if they can fit in.

"Up to now, they have had to accept only those jobs handed out to them. Nevertheless, we are ready to co-operate with all existent agencies, including the Veterans Administration, to further our plans."

Records in Factories Good

"Our main idea," he pointed out, "is that if a man's good for a job—he's good for it—that's all! We don't want to depend on charity.

"Some of the factories which have accepted blind veterans have found them much better workers than those who can see. There is practically no absenteeism among them, and there has been no record of a single accident in a year.

"Don't make the mistake that they are despondent. On the contrary, they've learned to accept blindness as a fact. These fellows can do anything they want to."

Mixed Faculty Teaches at Army's First University Center

afro - American
7-24-45
FLORENCE, Italy—The first University Center of the Army's extensive education program for troops overseas opened Monday, July 9, at the University of Florence, here with a racially mixed faculty and an enrollment of 1,320 students. The student body includes enlisted men, officers, Wacs and nurses. The program enables troops to pick up the threads of their civilian interests by study and practical application of training.

Instructors and administrators have finished their training in special Information and Education staff schools in France, England and Italy. They have returned to their units to pass on this instruction to other personnel who will assist in the operation of the unit schools.

Can Attend Other Schools

Qualified soldiers, Wacs, and officers will be permitted to attend civilian institutions such as Oxford, the Sorbonne, the University of Milan for technical training, and University of Padua and the Conservatory of St. Cecilia for art and music.

A major phase of the study program in civilian institutions will get underway when the participating schools and universities open their fall semesters. When they open, military personnel will attend regular sessions of the institutions, taking courses from the schools' regular curricula.

The center at Florence opened with a faculty of 93 officers and enlisted men and women. The faculty includes both white and colored instructors.

Free of Military Duty

Students are billeted on the University grounds and have complete freedom from military duties, with the exception of the retreat ceremony at the close of each day's exercises.

The first of the two University Centers in ETO is scheduled to open at Shrivenham, England on July 30.

Participation in the education program will be on a voluntary basis, subject to the facilities available, and to the requirements of military operations. All students finishing work will be recommended for credit for the work accomplished in the program with civilian schools of their choice in the United States.

13 GI's Enrolled in Univ. of Paris

afro - American
By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Germany

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PARIS—Twelve colored enlisted men and one warrant officer were among 800 Americans who Monday began a two-month French language course at the University of Paris under the Army's information and education division program.

Ambassador Jefferson Caffery was the main speaker at the formal academy exercises in Grand Amphitheatre of Sorbonne. The students are billeted together, eat together and attend classes in groups of 20 under French instructors.

3 Have Master's Degrees

Classes are divided into primary, intermediate and advanced. Among the colored students, three have master's degrees.

Warrant Officer Jimmy Davis Englewood, N.J., attended Juillard School of Music. T/Sgt. Harold Logan of Tuskegee has a master's from N.Y.U. and 56 points. Sgt. Harold Battle, Gary Ind., has a master's degree from the University of Michigan and 38 points. First Sgt. Herbert Penn of Flushing, N.Y., also has a master's from Michigan and 62 points.

Others are Pvt. Hosea Lockard, Memphis, an alumnus of Lemoyne, has 95 points; Sgt. Herman Thompson, Glendale, Ohio, of Wilbermilitary operations. All students force, 58 points; Cpl. William Jones, Ruthville, Va., Virginia State, 47 points; Cpl. Reuben Richardson, Wyoming, Ohio, Fisk University; Sgt. Richard Williams, New York City, College of New York; Sgt. Edward Smith, Washington, D.C., Terrell Law School; Sgt. Theodore Menchan, Ocala Fla., Morehouse; S/Sgt. Gilmor Powell, Greenville, S.C., Bett Junior College, 103 points; Cp Arthur Carter, Greenville, S.C. Tuskegee.

The men have complete ac

ademic freedom with no military duties. They are well pleased with all circumstances. Credits obtained may be used toward degrees at home. Other schools will follow here and other cities of the European theater.

Negro Counsel Centers Considered By Group

Baltimore
TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 3 —(AP)—The executive conference of Negro Land Grant College Presidents is considering plans for the establishment of counseling centers for returning Negro soldiers in all Southern states. Alabama and Virginia already have such centers.

Discussions on this matter were held here recently at a conference attended by Dr. H. M. Bond, of Fort Valley State College, conference president; Dr. L. H. Foster, president of Virginia State College; Dr. F. D. Blueford, president of A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C., and President F. D. Patterson, of Tuskegee Institute.

560-1945

Atlanta Graduates From Veteran School

WASHINGTON, D. C. (SNS) — month, which will gradually be increased as their work becomes more effective.

Two Negroes were included among twenty-two veterans of this war who donned caps and gowns Monday, March 12, for graduation exercises as services officers under a program sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans Administration.

Negro members of the class were First Lt. George L. Holland, of St. Paul, Minn., formerly of the 92nd Infantry Division, who spent three and a half years in the Army and saw service on two foreign fronts, and Tech. Sgt. Charles R. Milton, of Atlanta, Georgia, who spent 27 months in the South Pacific.

The graduates of a course at American University's School of Social Sciences marched into St. John's Episcopal Church, Washington, D. C., for the baccalaureate service on Sunday, March 11, where Navy Chaplain Frances B. Sayre, Jr., said:

"The problem of the veterans is not merely one of education, of homes and farms, of marriages and loans and getting a job. It is a question of faith, too."

"War has winnowed out for them the things that do not endure. The danger of peace is that it may becloud again and bring confusion. Faith must make clear and straighten the path for them."

Graduates of the course will be sent to various regional offices of the Veterans Administration to receive on-the-job placement training, acting as assistant national service officers for disabled war veterans.

Lieutenant Holland was recommended for the Officer Candidate School while serving overseas, but after he received his commission, a recurrent attack of fever resulted in his receiving a medical discharge.

Sergeant Milton was disabled as a result of a bombing attack. He returned home after spending some time in the Ninth Area General Hospital, New Caledonia.

Several members of the class wear the Purple Heart and one member has a Presidential citation.

While in training the men received a training allowance from the Veterans Administration of \$92 per month, plus \$11.50 for a wife and \$5.75 for each minor child. During placement training each of the trainees will receive a supplemental salary from the Disabled American Veterans of \$25 per

VETS GET RIGHTS IN CAROLINA

RALEIGH—Regardless of race, "there will be no discrimination in our plans for the return of veterans to North Carolina," said Colonel Thomas H. Upton, assistant to the State Director of Selective Service of North Carolina, in an interview here.

Colonel Upton pointed out that when Selective Service was being organized in North Carolina, all committees were asked to recommend men and women of good reputation "without regard to race, religion or politics" for appointments in this organization.

He felt that this early spirit was indicative of what the spirit would be in the veterans program as far as Selective Service was concerned. To supplement this statement, Colonel Upton said that two of the 24 Negroes in the country on appeal boards of Selective Service were in North Carolina. These are Dr. James Shepherd of Durham and S. B. Simmons of Greensboro. In addition to these two, there were Negroes on many local boards in North Carolina, he said.

Colonel Upton then explained his State's plan for veterans. It is an exhaustive measure that originates with the governor and whose policy is greatly determined by the State Planning board. (Governor Broughton's interview reveals that there are five Negroes on that board). This plan, known as the North Carolina Veterans' Assistance and Post-War Employment program, is now in the process of being printed.

"Here, in North Carolina, we feel that all veterans have certain rights; the fact that a veteran is a Negro will make no difference to us in protecting those rights," Colonel Upton concluded.

Veterans' Official For Negroes Sought

WASHINGTON, May 9. (P)—Appointment of an administrative assistant for Negro affairs in the Veterans' Administration was proposed to congress today by Rep. Frances Bolton, Republican, Ohio.

Mrs. Bolton said in a statement she introduced her bill on the basis of a study indicating "a rather general feeling of real need for such an official."

Veterans

Rules May Make Vet Loans Difficult For Race Gls To Obtain

By JOHN H. YOUNG III

DALLAS—Most States are setting up a loan office where veterans may make application for a loan under the GI Bill of Rights. These offices are under the supervision of a Veterans Loan Officer who is appointed by the Veterans Administration in Washington.

Being a veteran myself, I decided to test the measure in the three States of Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. I was particularly interested in finding out about loans for business. Here is what I found as based on questions and answers in the three States mentioned:

FIRST, the veteran must understand that the whole procedure is simply one of underwriting in which the Government simply GUARANTEES up to a maximum of \$2,000. (One official declared that a veteran came in to borrow \$75 with which to get married.) With this understood, the veteran must decide what type of business he wishes to enter. After this decision, he goes to the loan official of the Veterans Administration and talks it over.

He finds that (1) he must have had previous experience in the business that he wishes to enter; (2) if the official approves him on this score, he must locate the business; (3) he must come back and discuss the cost of this business with the loan official, whose approval means that he is eligible to make a loan; (4) he must find a lender, such as a bank or individual, who is willing to make him a loan IF he can give proper security. If he doesn't have the security, the lender may take to first mortgage on his business.

THE FIRST jolt that the veteran will get is when he learns that this money can only be spent for buying a building or equipment. If he had dreams of using part of that money with which to buy a stock of merchandise for his business, he would be sadly disillusioned. None of the money can be spent for merchandise or used for operation of the business; nor can it be used to lease property. This means that the loan would not do him any good unless he had at least \$4,000 cash or credit with which to stock the business. What's more, he must prove that he will be able to stock the business, and run it at a loss for a period before he can even get the loan in the first place.

THE MATTER of having to qualify on the basis of experience is a great problem. There are thousands of soldiers who went from school to the battlefield and who have no business experience at all. If some were lucky enough to have, say, worked in the laundry in the Army this may qualify them.

Where does this leave the young

soldier who went into the Army without business experience and whose only experience in the Army was the business of carrying a gun? Did he take more risk on the battlefield only to enjoy less opportunity for having done so?

To the Negro veteran, the matter of experience is even a more serious problem. How many Negroes have had experience in operating furniture stores, hardware stores, clothing stores, manufacturing units, to mention only a few? If they even worked in some of these businesses, would their status as a common laborer qualify them?

Unless this matter of experience can be made up by other qualities, the Negro veteran will find himself typed in the same old business of cafes, etc. He is likely to find himself typed when he comes to the point of getting a loan. As one banker told me, "I can't imagine a Negro wanting to go into the furniture business."

IT IS IMPORTANT that the veteran acquaint himself with the two avenues of redress: (1) If the local veterans official fails to qualify him for a loan, he may appeal to the Veterans Administration in Washington; (2) If, after exhausting all other sources, he is unable to obtain a loan, he can apply to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

It is apparent that this part of the GI Bill of Rights does not accomplish the end for which it was intended. Much revision and amendment must take place before there can be any equitable opportunity. In the meantime, existing Negro business and capital would be wise to organize loan agencies that Negro veterans may be encouraged to enter business on a diversified scale.

Negro Vets Form First Unit Of VFW In Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—For the first time in the history of the Mid-South, a Negro Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, a national organization of men who have fought for this country outside the continental limits of the nation, has been formed.

3 NEGRO VETERANS FLOWN FROM INDIA

MIAMI ARMY AIR FIELD, Miami, Florida—Three Negro vets were among the first group of overseas returnees to be flown by ATC back to the States after VE-Day.

For all three, the climax of their lengthy service overseas was the speedy trip by C-54 transport of the Air Transport Command which flew them all the way from India. After the usual processing here at ATC's Miami Army Air Field, they continued to their homes on furlough.

All veterans of lengthy service in the building of the famous Ledo Road in India and Burma, they are: Pvt. Edward W. Stephens, 32, of Mobile, Ala.; Pfc. John R. Sims, 28, of Route 2, Box 42, Talladega, Ala., and Pvt. Chester A. Turner, 25, of Jackson, Miss.

The local post holds meetings each 2nd and 4th Wednesday night in each month at the Masonic Temple, 200 South Fourth St., on the third floor of the North Hall.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars organization was formed following the Spanish-American War, and has among its objectives the care of the widows and orphans of overseas veterans, the care of sick

Officers of the new post of foreign war veterans... the first Negro post organized South of Detroit, Mich., include the following: Post Commander; Harvey Cleaves, Post Commander; Wesley Douglas, Senior Vice Commander; Monroe Jefferson, Junior Vice Commander; George White, Judge Advocate; Bill Brown, Chaplain; Joseph Campbell, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Lee J. Gordon, Quartermaster.

Trustees of the new post include: Otis Johnson, Ernest Harris, and C. T. Sullivan. The organization of Post 684, and to form the organization of their group. Assisting Commander Devitt in the ceremonies were 75 members of the white posts. Aiding the commander were Comrades H. R. and C. T. Sullivan. Rooney Adjutant of Post 684, and Mark W. Sweet, Chaplain of Post

Led by the white State Commander of VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars), Comrade C. P. Devitt, Negro veterans of both World War I and II were "mustered in" during special ceremony held at the Negro Masonic Temple, 200 South 4th St., last Fall.

In the meeting, held October 2,

Special Program For Veterans at Hampton

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—Veterans of World War II who enrol at Hampton Institute, one of the 32 private Negro colleges and universities banded together in the United Negro College Fund which is currently seeking \$1,550,000 in support of Negro private education, will enjoy the advantage of special curriculum offerings and of counseling services that are especially adapted to their needs and interests, President Ralph P. Bridgman has just announced.

Designed to help returning service men and women speed their preparation for gainful employment in civilian life, and also complete their college education, the Hampton program for veterans will go into effect step by step, beginning with the summer of 1945, as enrollment of veterans creates a consumer demand for its various offerings.

Ala. Educators On Vet. Advisory Com.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—Six educators have been selected to serve with the advisory group for returning veterans in connection with selective service.

The advisory group, headed by Dr. L. Frazer Banks, superintendent of Birmingham schools, and Dr. John E. Bryan, superintendent of county schools, will have the following consultants on Negro education: Norfolk, Va.

Jackson Abrams, Dunbar High School, Bessemer; President W. A. Bell, Miles College; the Rev. J. Bradley Calhoun, Payne College; Prof. C. W. Hayes, supervisor of city schools; E. Paul Jones, supervisor of Jefferson county schools; and Prof. L. J. Oliver, Fairfield Industrial High School.

Veterans Enrolled at Langston University

LANGSTON.—Veterans enrolled at Langston university under the provisions set forth by the Vocational Rehabilitation Program of the Veterans Administration, Public Law 16, and Public Law 346, 78th Congress, are: James Lee Brown, Boley; Buford Guthrie, Clinton; Francis C. Hopkins, Okmulgee; Arthur Matthews, Guthrie; Frank Rogers, Goodnight; Elmer D. Slaton, Watonga; Mitchell Southall, Tulsa; Robert Swain, McAlester; Charles W. Williams, Fort Worth, Texas; and Ernest Smith, Okmulgee.

NEGRO BENEFITS OUTLINED

Help For Honorably Discharged Service Men Explained

Government and other benefits that await honorably discharged negro service men were explained to pastors and other leaders at a meeting at First Baptist Church, 682 South Lauderdale, Tuesday, sponsored by the Veterans Advisory Committee and the Memphis Council of Social Agencies.

Ike Friedman, manager of the United States Employment Service office here, told how aid is given in finding jobs; Fred Mivalez, of the Veterans Administration, explained the provisions of the G.I. Bill in matters of education, vocational training, loan guarantees for homes, farms and business.

Bryan Wilson, president of the Memphis Council of Social Agencies, presided.

2,304 Vets Arrive at Camp Shanks

No Segregation of 50

Tan Yanks in Group

TO BE HOSPITALIZED

Joint Combat Service

Destroys Racial Bars

ORANGEBURG, N.J.—The largest shipment of overseas war veterans ever brought to Camp Shanks, here for processing and re-shipment, 2,304 battle-wounded and sick Army service men, including fifty colored vets, arrived here May 16.

This shipment is the first to arrive at the base hospital here since V-E Day, and all the men will be kept here approximately three days before being transferred to other hospitals for further treatment.

They can request to be sent to places near their homes, and the Army Public Relations staff informed the AFRO that every effort will be made to fulfill such requests as it considers it a great morale builder.

Special Care for Some However, some soldiers have certain wounds or illnesses that require treatment at special hospitals, and in cases like these, requests will be denied for the good of the men themselves.

Many of the men brought here by the Red Cross trucks were able to get out and walk into the hospital. A good proportion however, were litter cases and had to be carried in.

No Discrimination

One thing is definite. There is no discrimination here!

Colored men were assigned beds

in the same rooms as whites, and the AFRO found all fraternizing freely and without the slightest trace of race consciousness only a few minutes after their arrival here.

Pvt. James W. Hooks of the Quartermaster Corps, revealed that he was wounded by battle in Bastogne, Germany.

In Combat 18 Days

Immediately hospitalized and returned here for further treatment, he said. "I was in combat for eighteen days and never thought I'd get out of it alive."

"I also never thought that Germany would surrender so soon. You can put me down as saying that I was more surprised than anything about coming back to the United States, and I'm looking forward to seeing my family."

Single and 21, he has been in the service for over two years, and overseas nineteen months. Born in Hopkinsville, Ky., where his family resides, he is anxious to be shipped to a hospital near there.

Tripped Over Bridge

Pvt. King S. Smith of the 965th Quartermaster Corps, did not see action in Europe although he has been returned here for treatment of a dislocated right knee which he got tripping while walking over a bridge in France.

"I didn't think I'd ever make it coming back to this country," he laughed. "Every day at sea took so long."

Private Smith, who is 38 and single, lived in Harlem before entering the service nineteen months ago. Overseas since August, he has served in England and France.

Each Allowed Call

A truck driver in civilian life, Smith declared, "I think I" open a bakery in Harlem. Right now, I am going to telephone my girl friend in Brooklyn right away."

After entering the hospital, all men received slips telling them they would be allowed a free telephone call or telegraph message to anyone in any place in the United States.

Cpl. O. B. Williams of the 374th Engineers, describing how it felt when enemy artillery and bombers began blasting at them during the night said,

"When the planes used to come over 11 p.m. every night, we could tell they were not your planes because they came in three's or four's."

Guns Prevent Sleep

"We slept in foxholes and were very unhappy. The big guns from both sides kept us from getting any sleep."

Now here for ulcerated stomach treatment, he was under fire several time while he helped build and repair bridges in England, France and Belgium. He is entitled to a Good Conduct Medal which he expects to receive soon.

Corporal Williams is 39, single, and his family lives in Chicago. In the service for thirty-five months, he has been overseas for almost a year and a-half.

"I feel that I've done my duty, and I hope I can get well," he explained.

Future Celebration Planned

"I would have liked to celebrate with my outfit when Germany was licked, but I was on the water returning here. When they return after finishing Japan, we will get together and celebrate."

Cpl. Alonzo Wallace of the Quartermaster Corps was sent home to get further treatment for bronchial pneumonia which he contracted overseas.

"It feels all right being back here," he explained. "I was surprised when Germany surrendered so quickly. What I'd like to be sent to a hospital near my home in Taylor, Tex."

Asked how the climate in England affected his condition, he replied, "I couldn't stand the climate there. It's too damp."

Racial Barriers Down

Corporal Wallace, 35, is married to Mrs. Ola M. Wallace and is the father of a nine-year-old boy. He has been in the service for one year and four months, and was sent overseas last December.

After the interviews, I went down to the post exchange for some coffee and cake and saw colored and white servicemen sitting together at tables, talking and eating.

There is no question about it. Serving together in combat has had a tremendous effect on overcoming many racial barriers, declares the Army Public Relations staff, expressing its pleasure over the situation.

D. C. Vets Hit By Jim Crow

WASHINGTON—Negro war veterans seeking electronics or radio training under the GI Bill of Rights here will be dealt a hard blow by Old Man Jim-Crow after May 31.

On the whole, all war training centers cease operation with classes being shifted to night schools. All the approved full time schools are jim-crow institutions where veteran training will not be available to Negro ex-GIs. The men, to continue their training, must go to out-of-town schools.

White veterans have an approved radio engineering institute which will enable them to pursue training in the city. Night schools for Negroes will offer classes three nights a week.

Race Question To Stay On GI

Loan Forms

WASHINGTON—Veterans' Administrator Frank Hines flatly refused this week to eliminate questions regarding race from application forms for GI business and housing loans.

Last March, Hines assured the National Urban League that the V.A. would observe a policy of "freedom from discrimination" and "freedom from obstacles and prejudices" for the one million Negroes in this war.

The use of the question on application forms was disclosed by the Washington Post two days later. Veterans seeking loans for new businesses and housing are required to list their race on application forms.

In answer to a protest from the NAACP, Gen Hines wrote, "Manifestly the lender requires adequate information for his purposes in addition to that which would be necessary for government purposes only."

"Of course, you realize that few, if any, persons would lend money without being fully informed of all facts which the lender considered relevant," Hines told Jesse O. Dedmon Jr., NAACP secretary for veterans' affairs.

Race Injected
into VA Prove

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The racial issue was seized upon by Rep. John Rankin (Dem., Miss.), chairman of the House Veterans' Committee, last week in an effort to divert attention from the basic wrongs in the Veteran Administration.

When testimony was brought out that some colored soldiers assigned as attendants at a veterans' hospital had been court-martialed for physical mistreatment of white patients, Rankin criticized the War Department for sending colored soldiers into the hospitals.

He made no comments, however, when the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars introduced testimony showing that colored veterans have been the subject of mistreatment at veterans' hospitals.

560-1945

HINES PLEDGES AID TO NEGRO VETERAN

New York Times

Administrator Announces Policy

of 'Four Freedoms' at

Times Hall Meeting

3-14-45

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs and Administrator of Re-training and Re-employment, promised last night, at a meeting of the National Urban League, in Times Hall, 240 West Forty-fourth Street, that the governmental agencies under his direction would observe a policy of "four freedoms" for Negro war veterans.

These freedoms, which General Hines said were based upon programs that already have been adopted by many Negro leaders were: "Freedom from discrimination in the administration of the law; freedom from inequality in education; freedom from inequality in expenditures for health, hospitalization and rehabilitation; freedom from obstacles and prejudices, which prevent equal work opportunity and equal pay."

Mrs. Lillian N. Poses, regional attorney for the War Manpower Commission; J. Raymond Walsh, economist for the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Nelson H. Cruikshank, director of the social insurance activities of the American Federation of Labor, and Capt. C. S. McDowell, general manager of the Arma Corporation, were others who discussed post-war employment opportunities for Negro veterans at the forum.

3-14-45

Million Veterans Estimated

General Hines estimated that after the war there would be a load of at least 1,000,000 Negro veterans to be served in re-employment. He said that 750,000 of these came from the South, and that about 70 per cent of this number were from farms. Asserting that it was unlikely that all of them would wish to return to the farms or even to the South, he urged that studies be made as to the best place and method of utilizing the new skills they have acquired.

3-14-45

Declaring that the Negro has not always had an opportunity to receive an education commensurate with his ability to absorb and utilize advanced learning, General Hines predicted that the "GI Bill of Rights" would open doors that are now closed to him. After de-

fining the "four freedoms," General Hines continued:

"I do not pretend that these freedoms are always easy to attain. Indeed, the present conflict proves that those rights to which we are often most entitled are the most difficult to attain. But in the administration of my responsibilities it shall be my continued official and personal policy to secure for all veterans, irrespective of race, color or creed, the full measure of right to which they are entitled by reason of the laws which Congress has written and by reason of the glorious pages of our history which the veteran himself has written."

3-14-45

Fears New Discrimination

Captain McDowell warned that Negro workers were threatened with a disproportionate share of economic suffering through the working of seniority clauses in post-war re-employment. He said that "economic competition for skilled and semi-skilled jobs between Negro and white will give rise to, if not the old and cruder forms of discrimination, new and more subtle methods."

He contended that industry was powerless in the face of adverse community pressures, pointing out that "no employer can undertake the community responsibility for dealing with tension over inadequate or insufficient housing, transportation facilities, educational opportunities or blind prejudice."

Mr. Cruikshank said that the American Federation of Labor has re-affirmed a policy of non-discrimination at practically every national convention since 1881, and that in none of the unions directly under the control of the AFL, the Federal unions, was racial discrimination permitted. He said that the total number of Negro members of AFL unions was now more than 1,000,000, and was larger than those in any other labor organization.

3-14-45

Mr. Walsh warned that the proportional lay-off principle was bound to be discussed increasingly in the months ahead. As yet, he said, none of the leading labor movements had taken an official stand on it. He said that those opposed to the proposal argue that any attempt to change the existing system of seniority would create added resentment against the Negro, and would tend to set the Negro group more apart from other workers than ever.

1000 Vets Protest AFRO-AMERICAN Limit on Ratings

White Rookies Given
Chance to Advance

OFFICIALS SILENT

Veterans Effect of 2-Day Strike at Cal. Port Uncertain

LOS ANGELES — A two-day hunger strike at Port Hueneme, in protest against limited ratings, ended when approximately 1,000 Seabees, veterans of 21 months' service in the Pacific, reported for breakfast Sunday morning.

The men are said to have resisted the addition of white enlisted men to their battalion for eventual promotion to chief petty officers, rating for which they felt qualified because of training and experience.

Norman O. Houston, member of the local NAACP, board of directors, said that practically the entire personnel of the 34th Construction Battalion participated in the strike.

Commodore William M. Quigley, commander of the advance base depot at the port, located near Oxnard, Calif., told the AFRO Monday that all inquiries concerning the strike would have to be directed to the Navy Department in Washington.

Commander Anderson, commandant at San Diego, however, said that he felt that since the men had voluntarily resumed their meals, the issue could be considered closed.

He declined to state whether there had been any change made in the conditions about which the men complained.

"No Basis for Complaint"

On the first day of the strike, however, Commodore Quigley was quoted by Navy spokesmen here as saying that the men "have no basis whatsoever for complaint, since there has been absolutely no color line and no discrimination against members of the battalion by its own officers or by the Naval base."

According to the Navy public relations office here, there has been no known change in conditions at the port, and the strike ended because the men "just got good and hungry."

Charles Milton One Memphis World Of 2 Training At American University

WASHINGTON (SNS) — Two Negroes, one an Atlantan, are included in the first class of 21 handicapped veterans of this war now taking a five-month course at American University, of this city, designed to make them experts on laws affecting the rights of discharged service men, particularly disabled veterans.

The Atlantan is Technical Sergeant Charles R. Milton, 36, who

spent 27 months in the South Pacific where he was disabled as a result of a bombing attack. He returned home after spending some time in the Ninth Area General Hospital, New Caledonia. So interested was Sergeant Milton in the problems of disabled Negro veterans, that he immediately set about organizing a Negro veterans organization in Atlanta. The membership of this organization, though strictly local, had grown to 500 before the sergeant entered American University. He is unmarried and before entering the service, operated a barber and beauty shop supply business in Atlanta.

1-30-45

The other recipient of this special training is First Lieutenant George L. Holland, of the 92nd Infantry Division, who spent three and a half years in the Army and saw service on two foreign fronts before he was brought back to this country to go to Officer Candidate School. He is from St. Paul, Minn.

The course is offered by the National Service Department of Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans Administration.

Handicapped Vets Training AFRO-AMERICAN to Aid Disabled Veterans

1-27-45

WASHINGTON — Veterans' hospital and discharge centers to acquaint disabled servicemen of all the legal benefits to which they are entitled.

Two colored men are included in the first class of twenty-one handicapped veterans now at American University taking a five-month course designed to make them experts on laws affecting the rights of discharged servicemen, particularly disabled veterans.

While in training the men receive a training allowance from the Veterans' Administration of \$92 per month, plus \$11.50 for a wife, and \$5.75 for each minor child, unless entitled to a higher amount of pension for service-connected disabilities.

After successfully completing the course, the men will be sent to various regional offices of the Veterans' Administration to receive on-the-job placement training, acting as assistant national service officers for disabled war veterans.

Served with 92nd

Colored members of the class are First Lt. George L. Holland of St. Paul, Minn., who served with the 92nd Infantry Division and spent three and a half years in the Army, and T/Sgt. Charles R. Milton, of Atlanta, Ga., who spent twenty-seven months in the South Pacific.

1-27-45

The course is sponsored by the Veterans' Administration and the Disabled American Veterans, a national organization which plans to have representatives in all vet-

Veterans Hospitals Show Weaknesses, Legion Declares

Difficulties Are Shown At Tuscaloosa, Montgomery And Tuskegee; Physicians Needed; Legion Unit Cites Red Tape

BY MARGUERITE JOHNSTON
News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 12—Surveying the nation's 97 veteran hospitals as to their readiness to take on a future clientele of 18,000,000 men and women, the American Legion pointed to the present weaknesses in Alabama's three veterans' hospitals—at Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Tuskegee.

All three are dangerously short on help, are cramped in the need of 1,791 more beds. The Tuskegee to give service to patients and be Hospital, in addition, is suffering told that their present attitude of for the lack of physicians which it thinking that the patients are there could already put to use. for the staff's convenience be cor-

This report was made before a But here again the Legion inves- House investigating committee in tigators report "nurses worked to death" and an immediate need of Washington Tuesday morning. more help. The 329-bed hospital should be expanded by 500 beds.

THE SURVEY SHOWS THAT ON AVERAGE, veterans hospitals in this state give to former members of the armed forces hospital treatment and care of about the same caliber as that given civilians in city, county and state public hospitals. But narrowing the focus, the Legion survey spotted the flaws in the picture: Red tape, overcrowding and understaffing.

Tuscaloosa's neuropsychiatric Veterans Hospital was graded good on staff and patient discipline, food quality, quantity and preparation, and excellent on patient care and sanitation.

But to achieve this, nurses are "worked to death." Help is needed badly. The hospital should be doubled in capacity by the addition of 791 new beds to its present 791. Mental patients the survey indicated, are not properly separated from other patients.

GENERAL MEDICAL PATIENTS AT TUSCALOOSA complained to the Legion surveyors that they were kept in the same type of locked wards as mental patients. And because of crowded conditions, the Legion reported, "one veteran with a bullet in his hip was not operated upon or transferred to another hospital until authorities received a letter from the man's congressman."

The Montgomery Veterans Hospital was sharply rapped for the attitude of its staff toward the patients. "The staff should be advised," the report suggested, "that they were employed and assigned

TUSKEGEE'S VETERANS HOSPITAL shows more basic lacks. The neuropsychiatric hospital needs additional physicians and 500 beds added to the 1,934 already in use. Thus handicapped, the hospital was yet rated good on staff and patient discipline, building and grounds quality and quantity of food, treatment and care of the patients. There are no recreational facilities for the giant mental hospital.

The conclusion at Tuskegee was "better medical personnel needed; 500 beds needed; overcrowded."

Decentralization of the nation's veterans hospital system to eliminate red tape and a 30-point administrative program was proposed to the House committee Tuesday.

"The present veterans hospital system was designed to serve a potential load of 15,000,000 veterans. It now faces a clientele that may well number 18,000,000. T. O. Kraabel, Legion rehabilitation director, pointed out.

"The enterprise should be revitalized and expanded immediately to assure veterans of this war the best that the country can provide in the way of medical and hospital treatment.

"Hospital treatment and care should be at the same high level

as that in the famous Mayo Clinic and Johns Hopkins Hospital."

Appointment of Veterans' Advisor for N.Y. Hailed

Formerly With NAACP, Capt. E. F. Morrow to Seek Openings for Returning Soldiers

By D. R. RICHARDS

NEW YORK—The appointment of Capt. Everett F. Morrow as advisor to the Veterans' Personnel Division of New York's Selective Service Headquarters is considered a progressive step toward aiding discharged colored war veterans in their readjustment to civil life.

A former field secretary with the NAACP for five years, Capt. Morrow admits that he has a tremendous job to do but says he is confident that his program will be successful.

In addition to advising war vets of their rights under the GI Bill of Rights, he will assist them in their personal affairs and try to find employment for them in accordance with their background and training.

To Seek More Openings

In an exclusive AFRO interview in Selective Service Headquarters at 1 E. 44th St., he revealed his plans:

"I am going to try to impress upon my employers in various fields to hire colored men, especially where no inroad has been made. Many veterans have acquired special skills in the Army and they should be given a chance to use them.

"They don't want to go back to menial jobs they held before, such as shine boys, porters, and stock clerks.

Draft Director Praised

"The men who return are no problem at all. They want to establish homes and settle down. Those who have been in the service longest are easiest to handle."

Praising the city draft director, Col. Arthur V. McDermot, for his liberal policies and fair attitude, he said:

"Colonel McDermot is to be congratulated for his foresight in seeing that all veterans, regardless of race or color, are given an equal opportunity to get started in civil life again."

Made Captain May 24

Captain Morrow, who was promoted from first lieutenant on May 24, explained that he was actually appointed to his post on April 26.

Prior to that, he was chief of the orientation and education section of the Army Forces Training

Center in Indiantown Gap Military Reservation in Pennsylvania for a year. He was the only colored staff officer in the training section there.

Inducted on Oct. 16, 1942, he was graduated from officers' candidate school in July, 1943, as a second lieutenant, being voted the outstanding cadet in the graduating company.

Former NAACP Co-ordinator

As co-ordinator of branches of the NAACP, prior to Army service, it was his job to harmonize the activities of some 700 branch offices throughout the U.S. in connection with the national program.

"We seldom had any difficulty in field work," he explained, "although we received many threats of violence against us which fortunately never materialized. Roy Wilkins is an able administrator and very efficient."

Born in Hackensack, N.J., he was one of five children in a family prominent in New Jersey civic affairs for 40 years. His father is a Methodist minister. Captain Morrow was educated in New England schools and graduated from Bowdoin College.

He has three brothers, one of whom, William H., is an Army lieutenant, now on active duty in the Pacific area. His sister was the first colored teacher in Bergen County. The captain is single and 32 years old.

Dean at Cheyney Vets' Job Trainer

Announcement was made Monday of the appointment of Thomas A. Lemon, dean at Cheyney State Teachers' College, as training officer to the division of rehabilitation and education of the Veterans' Administration, with offices at the Custom House here.

Mr. Lemon's work is concerned primarily with restoring veterans to employment status through institutional and on-the-job training, and with their education.

Extensive Supervision

He will have under his supervision veterans in Cheyney State Teachers' College, Lincoln University, Delaware State College, and all other schools offering special-

ized training under the rehabilitation program.

Mr. Lemon said: "Those veterans who qualify for institutional training offer no special problem, but those who must be trained on the job, present the greatest difficulty."

"This is especially true of the colored veteran, because of limited number of work opportunities that are open to him, and now that most industries are retrenching . . . few firms are willing to accept colored trainees."

'Four Freedoms' For Returning Veterans

3-17-45

Pgh., Pa.

NEW YORK—Speaking before the National Urban League Forum Wednesday evening at New York Times Hall on the subject, "Veterans' Employment," Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, set up four freedoms to which he pledged himself to work for in the administration of veterans' affairs where Negroes and all ex-soldiers are concerned.

He set forth that these freedoms are based upon programs which already have been adopted by many leaders in consideration of the problem of Negro employment. They are:

Freedom from discrimination in the administration of the law; freedom from inequality in education; freedom from inequality in expenditure for health, hospitalization and rehabilitation, and freedom from obstacles and prejudice which prevent equal work opportunity and equal pay.

NOT EASY TO OBTAIN

Mr. Hines pointed out, however, that these freedoms are not always easy to obtain. He said that the present conflict proves that those rights to which we are often most entitled are the most difficult to attain, but in the administration of his responsibilities he shall see as far as within his power that they are administered without regard to race, color or creed.

The speaker added that in all legislation affecting veterans it already is generally known that no distinction is made either in the spirit or letter of the law as to race, color or creed.

He also expressed the hope that American business and industry will endeavor to prevent discrimination in meeting their employment problems, not because of any compulsion by law, but in appreciation of the service rendered by the Negro in time of war.

Emphasizing the importance of the problem before him, he pointed out that after the close of this present conflict, there will be a veteran load of approximately a million Negro men and women to be served in our re-employment program.

TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS

During the course of his speech the administrator paid tribute to the Negro serviceman when he drew a picture of the possible surprise on the faces of Nazi "super-men" on the Italian front expecting an easy victory over colored troops and then suddenly finding themselves in a whirlwind of destruction and defeat.

He implied that to deny equal opportunity to all is to deny truth itself. He said that it is from an abundance of caution, and not from a question of right or justice, that a study of the future employment problem of the Negro is made.

Disillusioned Vets Wait Too Long For Benefits Under GI Bill of Rights

Many Term It 'Bill of Gripes'; Red Tape Blamed

WASHINGTON.

The GI Bill of Rights, widely hailed as the green light to the future for returning vets when it was enacted in Congress last Summer, is rapidly being translated into the "GI Bill of Gripes" by disillusioned ex-servicemen. Instead of the promised strawberries and cream, large numbers of veterans seeking its benefits are getting the grand old runaround.

The main trouble lies not with the bill itself—which is pretty good as far as it goes though it doesn't go far enough. The reasons for the ex-GI gripes arise mostly from three sources:

The GI Bill of Rights was grossly oversold, largely by vote-catching Congressmen, at the time of its passage. Men in service were led to believe that it included adequate provision for practically every economic problem they'd have to face on their return to civilian life.

What It Would Do

If they wanted to continue their education, they were told, all they need do was to choose their school, apply for educational benefits and the Government would at once start paying their tuition and give them a subsistence allowance while learning. If they wanted to buy or build up a home, a business or a farm the Government would come across with a \$2000 loan guarantee as soon as they signed on the dotted line. (Many were misled into believing that the Government itself would loan them the money.) If they wanted time to look around for a suitable job, the Government would pay them generous unemployment compensation for a pro-



Three of the twenty-two disabled veterans of World War II, who completed courses at American University designed to prepare them to become advisers to other returning veterans. The two colored members of the class, R. Milton of Atlanta, Ga., (left) and George L. Holland of St. Paul, Minn., are shown talking with ex-Marine Sgt. Maurice Pion, white, who lost an arm in the Solomons. Holland served nine months overseas with the 92nd Division. Milton served with a Sixth Army medical detachment in the Southwest Pacific. The course was sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans Administration.

longed period. So they thought. The benefits provided by the GI Bill of Rights have, in a great many cases, been snarled up in red tape by the Veterans Administration, which handles these benefits.

Narrow interpretations of the Bill's benefits by the Veterans Administration, together with confused and contradictory interpretations by various VA officials, have created widespread bitterness and despair on the part of returning vets who thought they were entitled to the benefits being denied them.

Red Tape Inevitable

A certain amount of red tape in administering a program covering

really want to do. In the absence of adequate checks, many would be tempted to take a flier at some small business by the bait of an easy loan guarantee, although they might be obviously unsuited for undertaking the risk and are foredoomed to failure.

Scandalous

But virtually every observer outside the Veterans Administration itself agrees that the loan guarantees and other provisions of the GI Bill of Rights have been messed up with unnecessary red tape and undue delay which may reach scandalous proportions by the time large-scale military demobilization arrives.

Here are some examples of the red tape and runaround:

Vets seeking to buy or establish a small business find themselves confronted with a confusing welter of questionnaires and forms, one of them measuring three and a half feet on each side. Their application for a loan must be processed by a bank or other lender in the same manner as ordinary requests for loans. Then they must be approved by the Veterans Administration, after a searching examination. If approved, the Government guarantees only half the loan up to a minimum of \$2000.

Most vets can't fill out the necessary forms without expert advice, which often has to be paid for. Many vets are finding that banks aren't granting loans unless the applicant is deemed a sound risk regardless of the Government guarantee. So they forget all about the GI Bill of Rights, and go ahead on their own. The same thing is true of the farm and home loan guarantees.

Months Pass

Months and months pass before a loan is processed. Often, the applications are lost or misplaced in transit through the VA machinery. Splendid business opportunities sometimes melt away when would-be sellers get tired of waiting and sell to somebody else while the prospective veteran buyer frantically tries to get his loan application processed through the complicated VA mill.

The stark fact is that the original purpose of the guaranteed-loan idea in facilitating loans for vets by having the Government share the risk is not being realized in a great many cases.

Many vets, wishing to establish themselves in some small business, find that getting a Government loan guarantee is but the first of a number of obstacles to be

hurdled. One of the chief problems is to stock up with needed materials. They go from one government agency to another—the OPA, the WPB, the VA, etc.—in frenzied efforts to get materials on the critical list. They have heard a lot about preferences for veterans. But what they usually get is a runaround as the buck is passed expertly from one agency to the other.

A New Yorker, for instance, wanted to go into the textile-retail business. After a lot of hard work, he got a loan. He scrounged around for necessary store fixtures. He argued the OPA into allotting him the needed priorities for materials. He got the approval of the WPB for buying textiles. But when he actually went out to buy stock, he couldn't get it anywhere. Wholesalers were selling whatever they had to old customers; they had none to spare for new ones.

The man made the rounds of government agencies asking where this "veterans priority" came in. All he got was shoulder shrugs. An interested citizen finally prevailed on a wholesaler acquaintance to sell the vet enough, out of patriotic reasons, to start him off.

Many vets who have gone to college under the GI Bill of Rights have been waiting four or five months for their \$50-a-month subsistence allowance to start rolling in. Some of them have been forced to borrow from schoolmates, teachers and others in order to keep alive. Some have quit in disgust and given up their chances for an education. The Veterans Administration explains this long delay in processing educational-benefit checks to the shortage of personnel. But it has turned down offers to get a recruiting drive for needed personnel under way. It evidently prefers to muddle along as usual.

Give Up in Disgust

I know of cases where men honorably discharged from service have applied for school benefits in ample time to enroll in the current semester. But months of delay in processing their applications have prevented their admission, costing them six precious months. It is likely that a number of vets, confronted with these delays, have been unwilling to wait and have gone into industrial jobs instead.

The GI Bill of Rights needs some amending to take out existing bugs, some of which could not be foreseen at the time it was enacted. More important, the Veterans Administration must be prodded into cutting red tape and speeding up the processing of benefits.

Vets' Administration Still Opposes Colored Assistant

Hines Aware of but Ignores Public Demand for Reform; Particularly Against Outsider

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, head of the Veterans' Administration, does not see the need for a colored assistant administrator, he told this correspondent in an exclusive interview here last week.

He is aware of the desire and the demand for such a position coming from colored groups. He has been visited by several delegations and representatives of various organizations, one of which sent him a lengthy memorandum on December 16, signed by a number of nationally known educational and civic leaders.

But the general believes the Veterans' Administration is administered fairly and squarely for all Americans, including the colored.

He was particularly opposed to taking someone from the outside for such a job even if he did create an assistant administrator's job for a colored person. Such an outside person would not know the Veterans' Administration's workings and policies, he said.

Dr. Dibble First Choice

If he made such a move, he would be inclined to consider persons already in the organization—such as Dr. Eugene Dibble, head of the Tuskegee Veterans' Facility, on whom he relies now for certain advice concerning colored people, or Ernest J. Davis, a reviewer in the Adjudication Division here.

Despite the general's apparent pride in the fact that there are several thousand colored employees connected with the Veterans' Administration throughout the country, he obviously ignores facts and figures cited in the memorandum sent him December 16 by colored groups.

In their letter to Gen. Hines, the representatives of the several national organizations point out that of some 5,000 colored employees in the agency here, with the exception of a half-dozen or so, none is above the position of clerk and not more than six or seven receive salaries of more than \$2,000 a year.

Irked by "Jim Crow Label"

References to the Tuskegee Veterans' Facility as a jim-crow hospital irk General Hines. He looks on the Tuskegee hospital as a great achievement. He had planned, and

so told a congressional committee, to set up one or two more all-colored facilities, perhaps in Mississippi or Alabama. So much criticism of the separate facility has been received by him, resenting the government-sponsored segregation, however, that he thinks plans may be worked out for including the expected increase in the number of colored hospital cases in the general expansion program.

He says there is a great deal of misunderstanding of the administration's policies and practices in the handling of colored patients outside of Tuskegee.

There are colored patients in other veteran hospitals, he points out, where the institutions are divided into wards according to the maladies or surgical needs of the patients.

Say Men Want Segregation

When there are a sufficient number of colored patients with the same malady to make up a separate ward, they find, the general states, that the colored men prefer to be together. That is why colored wards are maintained in some of the institutions, he says.

The Veterans' Administration is spreading out to touch the lives of about 15,000,000 veterans, and through General Hines as administrator of rehabilitation and re-employment, the lives also of about 25,000,000 war workers who will have to be relocated during the reconversion period.

These figures will include about 1,000,000 colored veterans and 1½ million colored war workers. Despite these facts, however, General Hines prefers to operate without benefit of counsel on the many peculiar problems affecting colored citizens arising from the discriminatory practices prevalent in America.

Administrator Promises 'Four Freedoms' Policy

Statement Made During Meeting Of Urban League

NEW YORK—(ANP)— A pledge economic suffering through the to observe the four freedom rights working of seniority clauses in post of Negro veterans was made here war re-employment, Capt. Dowell last week by Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, administrator of veterans affairs and administrator of re-training and re-employment, during a meeting of the National Urban League. Hines not only promised that governmental agencies under his direction would observe a policy of "four freedoms" for Negro war veterans but listed the freedoms as freedom from discrimination in the administration of the law; freedom from inequality in education; freedom from inequality in expenditures for health, hospitalization and rehabilitation; freedom from obstacles and prejudices, which prevent equal work opportunity and equal pay.

Hines observed that those freedoms have already been adopted by many Negro leaders. After the war there will be a load of at least 1,000,000 Negro veterans to be served in re-employment, he said, pointing out that 750,000 of them came from the south, and that about 70 per cent of this number came from farms. It is unlikely, he asserted, that all of them would wish to return to the farms or even to the south. He urged that studies be made as to the best place and method of utilizing the new skills they have acquired.

OPENS SCHOOL DOORS

The GI bill of rights, Hines said would open educational doors that are now closed to him, because the Negro has not always had an opportunity to receive an education commensurate with his ability to absorb and utilize advanced learning.

"I do not pretend that these freedoms are always easy to attain," Gen. Hines remarked. "Indeed, the present conflict proves that those rights to which we are often most entitled are the most difficult to attain. But in the administration of my responsibilities it shall be my continued official and personal policy to secure for all veterans, irrespective of race, color or creed, the full measure of right to which they are entitled by reason of the laws which Congress has written and by reason of the glorious pages of our history which the veteran himself has written."

Other speakers on the forum, who discussed post-war employment opportunities for Negro veterans were Mrs. Lillian N. Poses, regional attorney for WMC; J. Raymond Walsh, CIO economist; Nelson H. Crankshank, AFL director of social insurance activities; and Capt. C. S. McDowell, general manager of the Arma corporation.

THREATENED WITH SUFFERING

Negro workers are threatened with a disproportionate share of

Hines Pledges Negro Equality

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, set forth last night "four freedoms" for the rehabilitation and re-employment of Negro veterans of World War II:

- Freedom from Discrimination in the administration of the law;
 - Freedom from inequality in education;
 - Freedom from inequality in expenditures for health, hospitalization and rehabilitation;
 - Freedom from obstacles and prejudices which prevent equal work opportunity and equal pay.
- Hines spoke at a forum on "Planning Now for Jobs Ahead" conducted by the National Urban League at New York Times Hall.

Hit Jimcrow, Gets 'Blue' Discharge

Daily Worker NEGRO SAILOR FIGHTS *new york, n. y.* HUMILIATION BY NAVY

By MILDRED McADORY and JOHN MELDON

The Navy gave Daniel Joseph Hardy a slap in the face in the form of a humiliating "blue" discharge when it released him—and Hardy won't take it. He has chosen to fight.

He got the discharge because he had guts enough to speak up against the Navy Jimcrow. *12-26-45*

Hardy, of 204 Lewis Ave., Brooklyn came out of the Navy with one of those notorious "blue" discharges, stating that his services for his country were "other than honorable." Not a dishonorable discharge, mind you, but something just as humiliating. Andy Hardy refuses to take it. He's fighting and he has some powerful voices speaking up for him—among them Rep. A. Clayton Powell, Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, the National Association for Advancement of Colored Peoples and many more.

What was Hardy's activities that the Navy tagged "other than honorable?" Hardy fought against racial discrimination while in uniform. He spoke up, and for speaking up he was mercilessly kicked around. The Navy charged him with "creating" race prejudice. That's a laugh if there ever was one.

"They didn't give me a trial," Hardy says. "I did nothing to be brought to trial for. I was told to sign a paper, and then I was released from the Navy."

Hardy just about ruined his health permanently working at a Navy ammunition base in California.

"Loading ammunition is hard work," he says simply.

After six months of that back breaking toil, he landed in a Navy hospital with a hernia. He says he was operated upon and sent back too early. He related one instance of Navy attitude toward Negroes that is indeed revealing. He told his lieutenant he was not able to do heavy loading work any longer and quotes the lieutenant as replying:

"What good are you to the

in the brig. The next day he was released into the custody of his commanding officer and asked to sign release papers.

"When I asked why, I was told I had created racial prejudice and was undesirable," Hardy said.

Now Hardy is fighting for an honorable discharge. He has many friends behind him, as determined as he is to wipe out the disgraceful insinuations implicit in a "blue" discharge. Meanwhile, he has to do light work to support his two daughters, identical twins, and his mother.

"I ask nothing but what any other American is entitled to," Hardy says. And he is fighting for it.



DANIEL JOSEPH HARDY
Fights "Blue" Discharge

attending movies. A "riot" increased the tension between whites and Negroes and Hardy had the temerity to speak out during a Navy hearing following the riot. Among other things he proposed Negro chaplains for Negro troops. The next day, he learned the military police were "looking for him." He returned to his base and was promptly thrown

Give Us Equal GI Rights, Southern Negro Vets Say

By MARY SOUTHARD

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 14.—Gen Omar Bradley, head of the Veterans Administration, will be asked on Friday to take action on the pressing problems confronting thousands of Southern Negro veterans seeking the benefits due them under the GI Bill of Rights.

The Southern Negro Youth Congress announced that a delegation of Negro and white veterans from the South will visit Gen. Bradley's office in Washington to present the dismal facts on discrimination against Negro vets and to ask for remedial steps.

The delegation will lay before the Veterans Administration the difficulties confronting thousands of Southern Negro veterans seeking the benefits due them under the GI Bill of Rights and the Vocational Rehabilitation Bill.

RACE BIAS

In Alabama, over 86,000 Negroes went into the armed services, yet those who have already returned find themselves hemmed in by the same old barriers of prejudice and discrimination.

At the USES in Birmingham, which has no Negroes on its staff, a Negro veteran with two masters degrees, who had taught aviation mechanics and meteorology, was offered a job as a janitor.

Negro veterans who want to buy homes or set up businesses, have run into the insurmountable obstacle of getting part of their loans from banks or insurance companies controlled by white business men.

There is no industrial training offered in the eight Negro high schools in the Birmingham area. Alabama has no medicine or law schools open to Negroes, and if they study elsewhere they face the problem of passing the state bar and medical examinations. There are no Negroes on the staff of the Veterans Administration to assist Negro veterans in filing application for loans or educational benefits.

LEGION BAN

Throughout the entire state there is only one American Legion Post open to Negroes, the Britton McKenzie Post at Tuskegee with less than 400 members.

Every year since 1918 Negro veterans of World War I in Birmingham have applied to the Legion state executive for a charter and have been refused.

In 1939 Birmingham Negro veterans filed suit against the state executive and carried their case to the state Supreme Court which turned it down in 1941. At the national Legion convention in 1941 Alabama veterans asked for a ruling that the national Legion executive be granted powers to charter posts where the states refused. To date no action has been taken on this motion.

It is reliably reported that Legion commanders from seven Southern states met recently in Birmingham to consider how to offset pressure from returning Negro veterans. Serious consideration was given to the illegal B Post Plan which has been in operation for a number of years in North Carolina.

Under this plan Negroes become members of B Posts which are responsible to A or white posts in their localities and which are deprived of the main rights and privileges granted to posts under the Legion constitution.

The significance of the fight of Negroes to win membership in bona-fide Legion posts is highlighted by the fact that thousands of Negro veterans of the last war did not receive their bonus mainly because they were barred from membership in an organization which would have assisted them in getting the benefits due them.

It is estimated that some 17,000 Negro veterans from Georgia and Florida, about 10,000 from Mississippi and about 8,000 from Alabama did not receive the bonus after World War I.

To combat the widespread discrimination against Negro veterans in the Southern states, the delegation will propose that Negroes be hired as representatives in Veterans Administration offices on a state, county and city level, and that Veterans' Guidance Centers such as that one recently established at Tuskegee, be extended to educational institutions throughout the South and to community organizations.

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PRESS FOR RIGHTS

To break down the policy of the USES, which stubbornly persists in referring Negroes to menial jobs, the delegation will propose that Negro interviewers be added to USES staffs.

The delegation will also press for immediate removal of the illegal barriers of race prejudice which exclude Negro veterans from membership in the chartered veterans organizations, the American Legion, the Disabled Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and for improving the GI Bill of Rights through increases in educational and unemployment benefits.

Unless immediate and drastic steps are taken, thousands of Negro veterans will be cheated out of the benefits they have earned on the battle fronts.

Delegates representing four Southern states will include Alvin Jones of New Orleans, Negro veteran of two years with the Coast Guard in the South Pacific, now international representative of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers; Alvin McNeil, Negro student at Tennessee State College, who served two years with the army in the southwest Pacific; 1st Lt. Malcolm Dobbs, white officer from Birmingham just returned from Germany after five years of service with the Army, who was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars and the Purple Heart with Clusters.

Others are Frank Hale, Alabama Negro Navy veteran; C. W. Greenleaf, director of the Servicemen's Center in Atlanta; Charles Milton, state

organizer of the Georgia Veterans League, Inc., militant Negro veterans' organization; Lucia Pitts, Negro WAC veteran; Barbara Oldwine, SNYC vice-president from Washington and Louis E. Burnham, administrative secretary of the SNYC.



CATHERINE GODFREY



CPL. JOSEPH HARRIS

Above are two typical Negro members of the armed services from Alabama: Catherine Godfrey, WAC; and Cpl. Joseph Harris, Army. Their right to equal justice under the GI Bill of Rights will be the subject of discussion of the SNYC veterans delegation to Washington on October 19.

fused to accept them because they were not, according to him, properly signed.

Veterans Protest Brutality of MPs

William B. Beckman returned from 40 long months of fighting overseas for his country. Saturday night he and his wife rushed to the shopping section of Harlem to buy some new clothes so he could get out of "that khaki." While walking down 125 st his arms filled with packages, he was stopped by two MPs from the reach him. When he saw one of 1240 MPs. They asked him for his the MPs push her, he tried to papers. He searched through his fight his way to her defense. MP pockets and discovered that in the George Hines grabbed him and excitement of his first day home beat him about the head with his he had left them at his house, club. 10-20-45
1057 Prospect av, Brnxx. 10-20-45
The MPs roughly pushed him into the patrol wagon with other MP headquarters on 110 st. When soldiers they had picked up. His wife brought his papers certifying, fearing for his safety, tried fying that he was discharged, the to push through the crowd to captain, Theodore Thompson, re-

Veteran Benefits Denied Holders

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
10-20-45

Blue Discharge Holders

(Take These Steps If Denied Benefits Under GI Bill of Rights)

1. Appeal to Solicitor's Office, Veteran's Administration, Washington, D. C.
2. If the Solicitor's decision is not satisfactory, appeal to the Administrator, General Omar Bradley, Veteran's Administration, Washington, D. C.
3. If the Administrator's decision is not satisfactory, appeal to President Harry S. Truman, the White House, Washington, D. C.

By JOHN H. YOUNG III
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The Army and the Veterans Administration are dealing two separate, but equally as un-American and unauthoritative blows to the future of over two hundred thousand helpless Negro and white veterans who are holders of the blue discharge. This was revealed here last week when increasing comment by leading individuals and organizations demanded that The Courier launch an investigation to clarify the situation.

Charges are flying thick and fast on the Army's handling of the issuance of the blue ticket which deprives holders of practically all benefits in compensation for military services. The Army is reportedly: (1) handing out the blue ticket with reckless abandon; (2) allowing the discharge to be issued without holding board hearings; (3) allowing commanding officers to use it as a weapon to settle personal differences with their men; (4) allowing prejudiced white officers to use it as a means of punishing Negro soldiers who do not like specifically unbearable conditions growing out of the Army's doctrine of white supremacy; and (5) issuing the blue discharge to Negroes in proportionately higher numbers than white discharges.

CRITICISES REGULATIONS

Basic criticism of the blue discharge is that it is administered under the authority of two loosely drawn Army regulations (AR 615-368 and AR 615-369). These regulations set forward as reasons for discharge under the blue certificate, debatable issues that run all the way from "Habits or traits of

character which serve to render his retention in the service undesirable" to the highly questionable charge of "enuresis" (bed wetting).

Inaptness and homo-sexuality are also reasons for discharge under the blue certificate.

An examination of those falling under these reasons shows that the "unfortunates" of the Nation, as well as the Army, are the ones who are being preyed upon by the blue discharge. Enlightened public opinion contends that most of these reasons are traceable to the responsibility of society rather than the individual and it cannot

Warning: All Soldiers!

Do not accept the Blue Discharge as a quick means of getting out of the Army. You will be losing Army benefits and benefits under the GI Bill of Rights. Do not accept a Blue Discharge unless you have had a hearing before a formal board. You are entitled to a hearing under Army Regulations 615-368 and 615-369. All hearings must include sworn witnesses. The rules of procedure and evidence must be carried out to the letter.

understand why the Army chooses to penalize these "unfortunates" who seem most in need of Army benefits and the opportunity to become better citizens under the educational provisions of the GI Bill of Rights. Too, the charge is that with all its medical facilities, the Army should have been able to separate these men and refuse to enlist them for duty; that the Army is penalizing men for a responsibility which was the Army's in the first place.

COLORED GI'S VICTIMIZED

The viciousness of the blue discharge as far as Negroes and the Army are concerned, is that too often it is the faucet to the wells of prejudice in the Army's pattern of segregation. There is evidence that prejudiced officers are interpreting bona-fide resentment to racist treatment as being indicative of possession of "traits of character which serve to render his retention in the service undesirable." These officers invoke such intolerable situations on Negro soldiers that some of them willingly accept the blue discharges to get out of the Army as soon as possible.

One story coming from a Congressman's office in Chicago is that some fifty Negro soldiers near Chicago were blandly asked if they wanted a discharge. When they answered in the affirmative, they were invited in to sign. Not until they were actually in the act of signing did they discover that they were signing for blue discharges. The charge here is that Negro soldiers are being tempted with the blue discharge as the quickest way to get out of the Army.

A high ranking officer whose present work is with the blue discharge believes that Army conditions, in some instances, are so intolerable, that men are feigning enuresis and homo-sexuality just to get out of the Army. These men lose their rights by receiving the

blue discharge.

There is no question as to the veracity of many of these charges of irregularities surrounding the Army's issuance of the blue discharge. Many of these charges have been substantiated by the Discharge Board of Review, appointed by the Secretary of War. Since this board began hearings a short time ago over 30 per cent of the cases involving blue discharges have been settled in favor of revoking it and issuing the honorable (white) certificate.

V. A. GUILTY OF WITCH-HUNT

As open to question as the Army's issuance of the blue discharge, is the Veterans Administration's use of a power which Congress never intended to be granted that agency in carrying out the provisions of the GI Bill. The V. A. has decided that its local or regional officers have the right to examine each holder of the blue discharge to determine whether or not he is entitled to benefits under the GI Bill.

Section 1305 of the GI Bill clearly states: "A discharge or release from active service under conditions other than dishonorable shall be a prerequisite to entitlement to veterans' benefits."

Upon reading this section, the V. A. immediately embarks on a witch-hunt to interpret what Congress meant by "conditions other than dishonorable." Although it is clear to many authorities on legal interpretation that Congress meant only to exclude those holding a dishonorable discharge, the V. A. comes up with the fantastic deduction that although the blue discharge is not a dishonorable one, the "conditions" under which the blue discharge is issued may be interpreted as being dishonorable. Through this hodge-podge of logic the V. A. asserts that Congress gave it power to say whether or not the holder of the blue discharge should receive benefits under the GI Bill—this, despite the fact that Congress sets forth, in clear and unmistakable language, the list of those to be excluded.

Section 300 of the GI Bill states: "The discharge or dismissal by reason of the sentence of a general court-martial or any person from the military or naval forces, or the discharge of any such person on the ground that he was a conscientious objector who refused to perform military duty or refused to wear the uniform or otherwise to comply with lawful orders of competent military authority, or as a deserter, or of an officer by the acceptance of his resignation for the good of the service, shall bar all rights of such person . . . under any laws administered by the Veterans Administration."

This section makes it clear that Congress intended to bar from rights under the GI Bill only those who had been dishonorably discharged as a result of general court-martial. The exceptions, Congress was careful to list as being a conscientious objector and an officer resigning for the good of the service.

(That there is uncertainty and confusion on the loose interpretation adopted by the V. A. is

demonstrated by the fact that a member of the Public Relations staff of V. A. told this correspondent last week that there was no question but that a blue discharge entitled the holder to all rights under the GI Bill. He later retracted this view after talking with the Solicitor's office of V. A.)

MENACE TO NEGRO VETERANS IN SOUTH

This usurpation of a right never intended by Congress, gives the regional and local officers of V. A. the right to rule over the holder of a blue discharge, regardless of that officer's judgment to determine what constitutes honorable and dishonorable "conditions." No written instructions have gone out from V. A. and the entire system is open to question since the judgment to be exercised has taken no concrete form. Needless to say, many holders of the blue discharge will be subject to the whims and prejudices of local officers of V. A. To the Negro in the South, holding a blue discharge, this constitutes a menace of serious proportions.

In attempting to clear up the muddle of the blue discharge, the Secretary of War has appointed a Discharge Review Board to which holders of the blue discharge may appeal. Although this board has a record for fairness, it is felt that creation of the board does not come close to solving the problem.

HEARINGS HELD ONLY IN WASHINGTON

Main criticism is that the board holds hearings in Washington. A holder of the blue discharge, living in California, must either trust someone here to represent him, or take the long and expensive trip to Washington. Neither of these alternatives would appear to be conclusive to the best interests of the person seeking appeal. Many veterans may fail to appeal simply because they do not have the money with which to make the trip.

If a person seeking appeal is not present, the board can only rule on the affidavit form. Quite often, some valuable evidence has been left out and the fact that the individual is not present mitigates against his receiving full benefit of his evidence.

The board is divided into two panels with a Negro member serving on each one. Col. West Hamilton is on panel No. 1 and Col. Chauncey Hooper on panel No. 2.

As this is being written, the Army continues to issue the questionable blue discharge and the V. A. still insists that it has a right to rule on the eligibility of veterans holding it.

Not the Same America

Returned Vets Find

More Bias, Intolerance

By LIBBY CLARK

LOS ANGELES—More than a thousand persons attending the "Welcome Home, Joe" dinner, sponsored by the American Youth Democracy Organization, heard embittered veterans denounce the so-called democracy for which they fought and for which many of their comrades gave their lives. The dinner was held Sunday night at the swank Ambassador Hotel, and several Negro veterans were among those presented awards for outstanding feats of bravery and service during the war period.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY

The affair marked the second anniversary of the American Youth Democracy organization, a war-heroism in killing six and capturing

ing two of a group of eight German soldiers who attacked him and that he was wounded in the arm and leg. She said that had Edwards as free and tolerant as it likes to been white he would have received label itself. the Congressional Medal of Honor, War Veteran Harry Tanouye, and that the AYD had called the matter to the attention of State and national officials and intended to press the issue. In a brief speech, Carter expressed his thanks to the AYD for the award, but stated that he, as for which he had fought did not so many thousands of Negro soldiers, had returned to find America more prejudiced than before and more intolerant at an all-time new high. Bill Mauldin, nationally known cartoonist, denounced Hearst-owned newspapers as instruments of "race hate and bigotry." He said that while overseas only two of his many cartoons had been censored. Since returning to the States, he added, dozens of his cartoons have been dubbed too liberal or sympathetic. He said that he was just damn glad or red, you were just damn glad and on "Overseas," he said, "it had not mattered whether the person next to you was white, black, yellow or red, you were just damn glad and on your side." An ovation was tendered the speeches of Carter, Mauldin and Tanouye. Outstanding radio, screen and stage celebrities highlighted the affair. Foremost among them were Ingrid Bergman, who presented an award to Lieut. Edwin Todd, and Navy nurse and Dorothy Parker, who acted as mistress of ceremony.

DIDN'T MATTER IN WAR

12-24-45

CROWD THREATENS BLOODSHED IF NEGROES OCCUPY NEW PROJECT IN LOS ANGELES; VISIT MAYOR

Oklahoma City, Okla.

**City Officials Claim No Racial Disturbances
Would Be Tolerated by Police Dept.**

SEVERAL MINORITY ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT

Black Dispatch

LOS ANGELES. (ANP)—White property owners delivered threats of a race riot and bloodshed to Mayor Fletcher Bowron here last week if Negroes were permitted to occupy the new war housing project in the Athens community.

"If Negroes move into the project, there will be bloodshed," the white citizens told Mayor Bowron in the presence of under-sheriff Capt. Jewell.

Declaring that they represented the Athens Property Owners association, South Los Angeles Home Owners association and the Southwest Realty board, they said that there have been threats of riots for a long time, and that with war veterans returning to the community they felt certain that trouble would develop if Negroes were permitted to live in the new project.

They stated further that the only way that bloodshed could be averted would be by opening the 135 unit in the project to whites only.

Mayor Bowron and under-sheriff Captain Jewell, who was also present, reportedly replied that such an outbreak would not be tolerated, and that there would be no such lawlessness or riots in this city.

Negotiations between the white residents of Athens and the mayor have been in progress for some time, and the meeting held on Monday was called in an endeavor to find a satisfactory solution to the problem.

Present at the conference were, in addition to the Mayor, the Athens citizens, and representatives of the sheriff's office, representatives of the Mayor's Committee for Home Front Unity, the Council for Civic Unity, the County Committee for Interracial Progress, the NAACP, National Housing Authority, War Manpower Commission, and the police department.

6-30-45
Preston Wright and M. H. (Jim) Driggers, both of the NHA, assertedly replied to the warning of the Athens citizens that the project had been designated for the housing of members of minority races, and that members of such races would live in the project.

Nat'l Housing Agency Under Heavy Fire For Anti-Negro Attitude

Projects Built For Negroes Are Given To Whites

So-Called 'Deal' Results In Flood Of Bitter Protests

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A withering barrage of accusations of discrimination against Negroes, with threats for demands of a congressional investigation, descended on the National Housing agency here this week from two fronts. In New Boston, Tex., near Texarkana, despite vigorous protests of Negroes for whom the project was originally planned, applications from whites were being accepted for a 200-unit project recently completed and indications were that the decision announced last week to turn the project over to whites would be allowed to stand.

Meanwhile, at least three California members of the house of representatives were known to have received telegrams from a group of Los Angeles citizens protesting an alleged "deal" by which priorities for housing open to Negroes in the Compton area of the city would be refused.

BLANDFORD MISSING

At the office of NHA here, Administrator John B. Blandford, Jr. was reported out of town. Howard F. Vickery, NHA director of information, admitted that a protesting message had been received from the West coast and said that a reply had been sent promptly.

Vickery could not discuss whether

or not the west coast protest had asked dismissal of NHA officials in the area who were believed responsible for the so-called "deal." An investigation had been ordered, he said, however.

At the offices of Reps. McDonough, Voorhis and Helen Gahagan Douglas, all of California, it was readily admitted that similar messages had been received. All of the legislators spent considerable time on the floor of the house during the week, however, and spokesmen for each indicated the belief that time had not yet permitted development of any action which could be discussed publicly.

PATMAN ACTIVE

In regards to the Texas situation reports that the last-minute decision to switch the 200-unit project from Negro to white occupancy despite original plans and also in disregard of what local Negroes declare is an urgent need for housing accommodations, had its origin in congressional pressure, gained credence this week.

The representative for the district in which the project is situated, Wright Patman (D.) is reported to have brought pressure on NHA, demanding that the project be made available to whites rather than Negroes. Blandford, who is said to have held out strongly against the switch at the beginning told the Associated Negro Press last week that the decision had come from his regional representative in whom the agency had great confidence. When asked about the possibility of the regional man's decision being discarded, Blandford would not make a direct statement but indicated that such a procedure would be unusual.

Council Urged by Union to Aid Negro Housing

Mayor Jeffries and the Common Council were urged "to use every means in their power" to provide adequate housing for Detroit's Negroes in a resolution adopted by West Side Local 174, UAW (CIO). The resolution pointed out that

a survey of the Citizen's Housing and Planning Council showed that Negro housing "and the resulting racial tension are Detroit's number one problem."

It also stated that the Detroit Housing Commission had placed only 1,731 Negro housing applications out of a total of 14,466 who applied in November.

NHA Refuses To Change Order on Negro Project

Blandford Is Firm on Giving Unit To Whites

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—In a conference February 20 with Judge William H. Hastie, chairman NAACP National Legal Committee, and Leslie S. Perry of the Washington Bureau, John B. Blandford Jr., NHA Administrator, formally refused to order that the 200 unit war housing project at New Boston, Texas, be turned over to Negro war workers in conformance with NHA's original plan.

When asked if the War Department had recommended the change to white occupancy, Blandford merely stated that the decision was made because 30 additional white skilled workers were being brought to the war plant and no housing had been provided for them.

In a recent letter to the Administrator, the NAACP pointed out that of the 2500 housing units provided for workers at the Red River and Lone Star Ordnance plants only 124 were available to Negroes who must travel 50 to 75 miles

daily. According to the Texarkana branch NAACP, 3,000 are in immediate need of housing with 175 already having made application for the 200 units turned over to whites.

Construction of the Negro unit which includes a \$60,000 FWA School, was begun upon the recommendation of Army officers operating war plants in the area. Between the time of completion and acceptance of applications in late January, white pressure groups including the mayor and Congressman Wright Patman (D.-Tex.) were successful in getting NHA approval in favor of white workers.

Announcement of the action, however, was delayed pending termination of the War Department's drive for Negro workers and participation of returned Negro soldiers on morale boosting programs in the area. In a further effort to jump the gun, six white families were moved into the project by Jos. P. Tufts, regional NHA head.

Hastie and Perry met with Blandford in behalf of Negroes who applied and qualified for war housing in New Boston.

Atlantans to Get 100 War Homes

ATLANTA, — (ANP) — Erection of 850 housing units, 100 of which are to be designated for Negro occupancy, has been given the green light by the state director in charge of the local program.

The program calling for expenditures of between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000 has been termed an entirely private enterprise and in no way "a government housing project."

Maximum selling price allowable for the Negro houses has been set at \$5,000 and rent ceilings of \$30 a month have been set. White tenants must pay no more than \$65 a month and houses designated for them cannot be sold for more than \$7,500.

Housing, which has been extremely tight for Atlanta's swollen Negro population, was eased somewhat last fall when W. H. Aiken, Negro contractor, was given permission by the NHA to erect 350 homes for war workers, most of whom are employed at the gigantic Bell Bomber plant

\$3,500,000 Negro Home Plan OK'd

Temporary Units Are for War Workers

BY ELWIN STOFFER
Free Press Staff Writer

A \$3,500,000 program for immediate construction of 1,000 additional temporary units for Negro war workers in the Detroit area was approved by the regional office of the National Housing agency and is on its way to Washington for final approval. Where the units are to be erected was not disclosed. It was said however that they will be built outside Detroit city limits.

Harry Grayson, field representative of NHA, termed the program a stop-gap measure which is sorely needed to alleviate critical needs.

George Schermer, area representative of the Federal Public Housing Authority, and Grayson said the program probably would be the final one under NHA's H-1 program, which provides public housing for war workers.

SCHERMER SAID it would take a drastic turn in the course of the war to necessitate any additional temporary war housing in this area. He explained the new program was not considered adequate to fill the area's needs, but it was believed sufficient to meet the present situation.

Schermer explained the one-thousand-unit project was dependent on final passage by Congress of the \$84,000,000 public housing bill. The bill has been passed by the House but sent back by the Senate for further Committee hearings.

Construction of 410 units for Negro war workers, for which the appropriation was approved last summer, was being held up pending final disposition of the one-thousand-unit program.

Schermer said the Government prefers to combine the programs under one large project rather than to attempt to find two different sites.

Won't Order Tex. Housing Units Given Back to Negroes

SAVANNAH TRIBUNE

PROJECT ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR NEGROES

Then Switched To White Near Completion

WASHINGTON, D. C. —In a conference Feb. 20 with Judge William H. Hastie, chairman of the NAACP national legal committee, and Leslie S. Perry of the Washington bureau, John B. Blandford, jr., NHA administrator, formally refused to order that the 200 unit war housing project at New Boston, Tex., be turned over to Negro war workers in conformance with NHA's original plan.

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approval in favor of white workers. Announcement of the action, however, was delayed pending termination of the war department's drive for Negro workers and participation of returned Negro soldiers on morale boosting programs in the area. In a further effort to jump the gun, six white families were moved into the project by Joseph P. Tufts, regional supervisor.

Negroes Sue For Housing

WASHINGTON, Mar. 6.—Three Negro employees of the Red River Ordnance plant in Texas have filed suit in U. S. District Court here seeking to enjoin NHA (National Housing Agency) from barring them and some 200 other Negro war workers from occupying "vacant and available units of public housing" built by the Government for war workers in the Texarkana, Tex., area.

The suit was filed by the NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People) on behalf of Louise P. Hughes, Jim Brown Jr., and A. D. Harper. The suit alleged that the Red River Housing Project was built to house Negro war workers, after the WPB (War Production Board), the WMC (War Manpower Commission), and military authorities had reported to NHA that Negro war workers were unable to obtain suitable housing in the Texarkana area, thereby "seriously impeding the manufacture of essential war materials."

Upon completion of the project NHA solicited applications for tenants for the project, and some 200 Negro war workers, including the three in whose name the suit was brought, signed up.

After that, "in response to the demands of white persons of influence in and about Texarkana," the suit charged NHA Administrator John B. Blandford "arbitrarily determined, and ordered, that the plaintiffs and all other Negroes should be excluded from Red River courts, solely because of their race and color."

Louise P. Hughes, one of the plaintiffs, is the wife of a soldier

now overseas. Denied residence in the housing project, she must continue to travel 80 miles a day to and from her job at the Red River Ordnance plant, the NAACP said. The other plaintiffs live an equal distance from the plant, it added.

NAACP Lawyers File Suit For Texans In U. S. District Court

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — Three Negro citizens of Texas, represented by attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, filed suit on Monday in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia against John B. Blandford, Administrator, National Housing Agency.

Permanent Injunction Asked — The Court was asked to issue a permanent injunction "forever restraining" Blandford and the National Housing Agency from "denying plaintiffs and other qualified Negroes, because of their race or color, the privileges of leasing and occupying vacant and available units of public housing in Red River Courts and other projects" built by the Government in the Texarkana, Texas area for war workers. The suit was filed on behalf of Louise P. Hughes, Jim Brown, Jr., and A. D. Harper, employees of the Red River and Lone Star Ordnance plants.

The Red River housing project, the complaint stated, was initiated by the National Housing Agency "pursuant to the findings, concurred in by the War Production Board, the War Manpower Commission, and the military authorities responsible for war production in the Texarkana area" that needed Negro defense workers were unable to obtain suitable housing in or near Texarkana, and that this condition "seriously im-

pedes the manufacture of essential war materials." This need of colored workers, it was alleged, constituted the sole legal justification for the expenditure of public funds involved in building the Red River Courts housing project.

Upon completion of the project, the complaint continued, NHA, during January and February, 1945, solicited applications for lease from the plaintiffs and approximately 200 other Negro defense workers in the area. A large number of these applicants were found eligible for acceptance. Thereafter, it is charged, Blandford "in response to the demands of white persons of influence in and about Texarkana," arbitrarily determined, and ordered, that the plaintiffs and all other Negroes should be excluded from Red River Courts, solely because of their race and color. This, the complaint contended, was a "wilful" violation of the public duty imposed by law upon Blandford and the National

Housing Agency.

Louise P. Hughes, one of the plaintiffs, is the wife of a soldier now serving overseas. She resides in Clarksville and must travel 40 miles each day to and from her job at the Red River and Long Star Ordnance plant. The other plaintiffs live an equal distance, each of whom must now lose from three to four hours a day traveling to and from work.

On behalf of hundreds of other Negroes similarly situated, the plaintiffs asked the court for immediate relief because "the manufacture of war materials of highest priority, urgently and immediately required by the army, was being seriously affected by the lack of housing for Negroes convenient to these war plants." The court was further asked to declare unlawful the practice and policy of the National Housing Agency to refuse to lease to qualified Negro applicants vacant and available units in public housing projects built and maintained by the United States for persons engaged in defense work because of the race and color of the applicants.

Judge William H. Hastie, Leslie S. Perry and Thurgood Marshall represented the plaintiffs.

Projects Built For Negroes Are Given To Whites

So-Called 'Deal' Results In Flood Of Bitter Protests

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A withering barrage of accusations of discrimination against Negroes, with threats for demands of a congressional investigation, descended on the National Housing Agency here this week from two fronts. In New Boston, Tex., near Texarkana, despite vigorous protests of Negroes for whom the project was originally planned, applications from whites were being accepted for a 200-unit project recently completed and indications were that the decision announced last week to turn the project over to whites would be allowed to stand.

Meanwhile, at least three California members of the house of representatives were known to have received telegrams from a group of Los Angeles citizens protesting an alleged "deal" by which priorities for housing open to Negroes in the Compton area of the city would be refused.

BLANDFORD MISSING

At the office of NHA here, Administrator John B. Blandford, Jr. was reported out of town. Howard F. Vickery, NHA director of information, admitted that a protesting message had been received from the West coast and said that a reply had been sent promptly.

Vickery could not discuss whether or not the west coast protest had asked dismissal of NHA officials in the area who were believed responsible for the so-called "deal." An investigation had been ordered, he said, however.

At the offices of Reps. McDonough, Voorhis and Helen Gahagan Douglas, all of California, it was readily admitted that similar messages had been received. All of the legislators spent considerable time on the floor of the house during the week, however, and spokesmen for each indicated the belief that time had not yet permitted development of any action which could be discussed publicly.

PATMAN ACTIVE

In regards to the Texas situation reports that the last-minute de-

cision to switch the 200-unit project from Negro to white occupancy despite original plans and also in disregard of what local Negroes declare is an urgent need for housing accommodations, had its origin, in the opinion of the NAACP, in a procedure would be unusual.

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Veterans Find Housing Tough Returning Servicemen Find It Difficult to Place Families

The No. 1 headache for Newark's returning servicemen who have wives and children is housing, not employment. The situation is even worse for Negro veterans.

Requests for housing for servicemen has increased 50 per cent in the last month, Miss Helen M. Garvin, director of the War Housing Center, said yesterday. She pointed out this figure is mounting daily with the shipments of soldiers returning from Europe, many of whom are eligible for discharge under the point system.

Even the recent federal authorization making servicemen, their wives and families eligible for tenancy in federal public housing projects has been of little help in Newark because those projects have 100 per cent occupancy, Miss Garvin said.

Some New Housing

The only hope—and that not too bright—is the 2,000 new units that will be available for hardship cases, those who were not previously eligible, next autumn. These units are being built in Irvington, Belleville, Nutley and Orange.

The new units are being built privately. Miss Garvin said the contractors will be asked to reserve some of them for returning servicemen. Most of the new units are of the garden apartment type.

Newark's serious housing shortage, caused by a huge in-migrant war-worker population, will be aggravated by the "new" families being created by servicemen, Miss Garvin said. Another factor that accentuates the housing problem is the number of evictions. The latter is the result of persons buying homes when they find they can't rent an apartment.

While the War Housing Center, which receives all referrals of servicemen seeking homes from Newark veterans' centers and organizations, is doing its utmost to find housing for these men, its original objective was to obtain homes for war workers.

Miss Garvin said there is a substantial pool of available housing which is being held back by homeowners who don't want to rent to persons with children.

"With a greater number of servicemen returning, we must appeal to these people to throw open these places for rental," Miss Garvin explained. "I must say, however, that owners of apartment houses and

private dwellings in this area have been co-operative. They have called us when they have any vacancies."

Miss Garvin said the first thing servicemen want when they are discharged are homes.

"Many of them have been married while they were in service and their wives have traveled from camp to camp with them," Miss Garvin said. "These wives return to their parents and when their husbands are discharged, their first thought is to set up their home."

Worse to Have No Place

"While we are sympathetic with these people, we feel that our first concern is to help the war worker or the serviceman who hasn't a roof over his head. It's bad to be crowded, but it's worse not to have any place at all."

Miss Garvin said there has been no lessening of the demand for housing in this area despite cut-backs in war contracts. She said that the housing shortage in Newark was bad even before the war.

Miss Garvin has found the same reaction in questioning servicemen who are seeking housing as officials at the Veterans Information Center at 45 Branford place.

"Nearly all of them either have or are going to have children," Miss Garvin smiled. "Our standard question is: 'Are you expecting?'"

Miss Jane Rinck, veterans' counselor at the Veterans Information Center, reported yesterday that the center has received "quite a few" requests from discharged servicemen for housing.

"These men are having a hard time finding suitable quarters," Miss Rinck said. "They want privacy. Most of them are living with their parents. They want a second honeymoon after returning from the wars. They dream of something nice when they are away and they don't like to come home and double up with relatives."

"It is especially difficult to find suitable housing for Negro servicemen. They hate to live in some place that is undesirable."

New Jersey housing